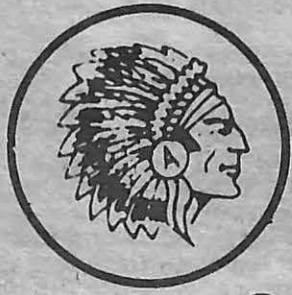


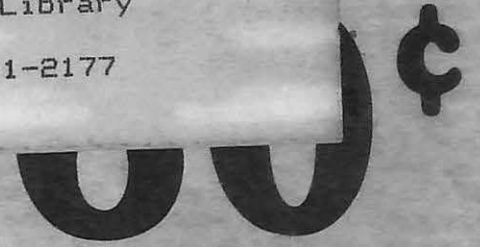
- **"State Of The City" Address**
Monday, January 25th, 7:30 p.m. - Agawam Middle School



AGAWAM

Advertiser News

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Volume XXII Number 3

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

January 21, 1999

Plant Expected To Open On Time...

Berkshire Power Generator Arrives Safely In Agawam

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

A two-month delay in the delivery of a vital piece of equipment isn't expected to impact the scheduled Labor Day opening of the Berkshire Power Plant under construction on Moylan Lane.

Plant Manager Frank Basile said the local unions have done a great job identifying other plant systems to work on while a new transporter was being shipped from England to bring the generator on the final leg of its journey from Poland to Agawam.

"Since November, we've had two months to redirect our efforts on the site and we've gotten ahead of schedule on the balance of the plant systems. We are on target to begin operating in September '99," Basile said.

Power plant officials could breathe a sigh of relief Tuesday afternoon, January 19th, shortly before 5:00 p.m. when the caravan transporting Their European-built, 358-ton generator arrived safely at the Berkshire Power site.

Built in Poland by ABB, the generator traveled safely across the Atlantic Ocean to Virginia by jumbo cargo vessel and by barge up the Connecticut River. But, the generator never made it out of the parking lot of the Farmers' Market in Hartford

SEE GENERATOR - Page 6...



AFTER A TWO-MONTH DELAY, Berkshire Power's generator arrived without incident on Tuesday, January 19th, at the plant's site in town. Berkshire Power officials said the delay in the delivery of this generator most likely did not impact the plant's scheduled Labor Day opening. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

For The Agawam Police Department...

Laptop Computers Provide Extra Level Of Officer Safety

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

The good news is this is good news for the good guys and bad news for the bad guys.

With laptop computers newly installed in all the district cars and the traffic patrol cars, Agawam Police officers have instant access to vital information on file with state agencies before stopping motorists in routine traffic stops or before pursuing suspects in more serious incidents.

Prior to the installation of the laptops in police cruisers six weeks ago, officers on patrol often had to wait as long as four minutes for information on a license plate to be relayed by radio from the patrol car to the police dispatcher, and then back again from a centralized state database containing information from the Registry of Motor Vehicles and from the active arrest warrant files.

"Now the laptops allow us access to the LEAPS terminal at the state so that we can actually 'run' a license plate before making a stop. The more information we have prior to the stop, the better off the officer is going to be, especially in terms of officer safety," according to Sergeant Kenneth Grady, a 29-year veteran of the department.

SEE COMPUTERS - Page 2...



SERGEANT KENNETH GRADY demonstrates one of the laptop computers that were recently installed in the Agawam Police Department's cruisers. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

COMPUTERS - from Page 1...

Not only will the officer know whether a car has been stolen or whether there are outstanding arrest warrants on the registered owner before stopping a car, all the other cars on patrol will automatically be alerted through their laptop computers to the situation and will be ready to respond as backup if necessary.

Besides boosting officer safety, the laptops also give the officers a secure method for communicating with each other and with their supervisors. No one outside the department can "listen in" on the computer screens as they can on police radio transmissions.

"The laptops help when we've got sensitive information which shouldn't go out over the radio. We can communicate with the supervisors without anyone listening in and without having to go back to the station to speak to a supervisor. That's saved me a lot of steps," Grady said. "But, the best thing about the computers is the information we get improves officer safety."

Officers log on to the computer system at the beginning of their shifts and immediately see a display indicating the names of the officers on patrol as well as a rating (on a scale of one to three) of the priority of each officer's current activity.

In a demonstration of the system, Grady explained that priority three is the lowest level and indicates an officer on patrol. An officer with a level two priority was on a routine traffic stop, but the priority would have been automatically upgraded to level one if a check of the LEAPS terminal had uncovered a stolen vehicle or an outstanding arrest warrant.

At that point, all the patrol cars and the

dispatch desk would have received an auditory alarm as well as a visual message on the computer screen, Grady said.

Latest Step In Effort To Improve Communications

Supplied by a grant application filed by Wilbraham's police chief to equip all the cities and towns of the Western Massachusetts Law Enforcement Communications System with laptop computers, the upgrade in communications technology is the latest step in the Agawam Police Department's effort to improve communications since moving to the Springfield Street, Feeding Hills headquarters in 1987.

When the department moved to the new headquarters, Grady was involved in upgrading the radio system and it seemed natural that his interest in communications led (retired) Chief Stanley Chmielewski to assign him the task of looking into a computer system for the department.

In 1995, Grady assisted the department in joining the computer age with the installation of an in-house system which runs on the DOS operating system. Four years later, Grady is working on another upgrade of the communications system.

"We'll be changing over to the Windows format and we'll be able to set up an interface with the laptops in the cruisers that will allow us to run reports right from the cruisers and will give us access to any information we have in our computer system," Grady said.

Using the Windows format, the officers on patrol will eventually have instant access to digitized photos as well as information relating to suspects' criminal records, including gang-related activities, weapons possession, domestic violence, and sex crimes.

LEGAL NOTICE**AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, January 28, 1999 at 7:30 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of the Massachusetts Department of Veteran Services for work to be performed on Main Street, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: January 21, 1999

LEGAL NOTICE**Melconian Appointed Majority Leader Of Mass. State Senate**

Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) is proud to announce that she has been appointed to the position of Majority Leader of the Senate. Senate President Thomas Birmingham announced his new leadership team at a January 15th, 2:45 p.m. press conference.

"Senator Melconian's political career has ranged from having Tip O'Neill as a mentor to most recently serving as First Assistant Majority Leader," said the Senate President, "and now her colleagues get the benefit of that experience and her unflinching commitment to making the Senate a productive and positive environment."

Birmingham went on to say, "Senator Melconian, in her various prior legislative roles, has earned a reputation for being well-versed in a wide range of policy areas which will be an asset to the whole senate. She has always interacted well with experienced legislators as well as incoming ones and that is an inclusivity that will help her develop consensus and support for our legislative initiatives."

"I am thrilled and delighted that the President has displayed such confidence in my abilities," said Melconian. "I will continue working with the members of the Senate to advance our agenda on issues like minimum wage, worker training, and education."

Melconian has an extensive political background. She has spent 16 years in the Massachusetts Senate and has held a variety of leadership positions, including Assistant Majority Leader, Chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Science and Technology, Assistant Vice-Chairman of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, and Chairwoman of the Joint Committee on Insurance. Before that, she polished her political skills in Washington, D.C. as Assistant Counsel to the former Speaker of the House, Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, Jr. and as an intern for Congressman Edward Boland.

Melconian represents the Hampden District, which includes Agawam, Chicopee (Wards 2, 4, and 5), Springfield (Wards 1, 3, 4, 6, and Precinct A of Ward 5), and West Springfield.

ADVERTISER NEWS

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noon. Thank you for
your cooperation in
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* * *

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Labatt's

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(12 Pk. Cans)

Red Dog

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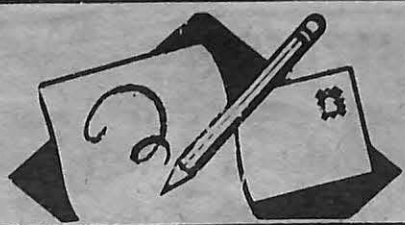
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Letters To The Editor

Harvey Johnson Drive Is Really Hazardous This Winter

To The Editor:
Dear Mayor Johnson:

I am writing this to you as a concerned citizen for the inhabitants of Harvey Johnson Drive.

Our street is a complete traffic hazard due to its lack of attention during all of the major storms each winter. Right now, as I look out my window, I can see the cars literally bouncing their way down the street. The "ruts" which remain due to the lack of plowing and drainage are at minimum six to eight inches deep, and are completely unavoidable.

There have already been two accidents on the street with people ending up in snow banks. Luckily, no one has been hurt up to this point. We are an established neighborhood with many residents well into their 60's and 70's and at least two of them are disabled, as well as many school-aged children. A few of the neighbors I have spoken to in the past two days are afraid to try to brave the ride up the street and thus, are being held "hostage" in their homes. Also, we have no sidewalks and the children have to be brought all the way to the end of the road to get the bus.

My question to you is, with all of the excess dollars in the DPW's budget for snow removal, due to the lack of snow this season, why has our street only been plowed once since last Thursday and Friday's storms?

We are all taxpayers, yet where are our tax dollars when we really need them? There have been at least six telephone calls made to the Town in the past week, complaining about the condition of our street. The only thing that has happened is that the sander has come in the middle of the rainstorm this evening to put down sand that will most definitely be washed away within the hour. Why haven't the drains at the corner of Federal Avenue and Harvey Johnson Drive been dug out? Now we not only have ruts, but we also have a minor lake.

Even if the weather gets warmer and the ice begins to melt, where is the water to go?

Mr. Mayor, I have lived on this street for almost nine years. Up to two years ago, the ambulances, employees, and delivery trucks used our street as a pass through to the Heritage Hall Nursing Home. Because of the fact that they were not supposed to do that and the speed they traveled the street, we got our street returned to the dead-end it had once been. Since then, it is as if we are being punished for trying to better our neighborhood. I don't know which was worse at this point, the speeding cars or the next-to-impassable roads.

As a mother of two, and one on the way, I am concerned about all of our safety at this point. The bouncing of the car up and down our street literally makes my stomach turn and if I did not have to go to work each day, I would not leave the house.

Since we are the ones who have helped you into office, can you help us feel good about the tax dollars we pay and help our street get plowed more than once per snowstorm? We welcome your response.

Sincerely,
Donna Viens & Family
64 Harvey Johnson Drive

No Forgiveness For Agawam Police Chief Campbell

To The Editor:

Agawam Police Chief Robert D. Campbell was quoted in the Union News article dated January 13, 1999 as asking for forgiveness during his press conference at the Agawam Police Station.

What the chief did was inexcusable, and a three-month suspension is comparable to a slap on the wrist. He didn't just make an unfortunate mistake ... he let a potential killer go free by ordering the release.

I commend the arresting officer and condemn the chief. You see, our son was killed by a drunk driver in Agawam on August 18, 1996.

The chief should not expect to receive forgiveness from anyone who has lost a loved one due to a drunk driver!

Robert & Susan Twarkins
Agawam

AHS's Future Golfers Will Be Denied Bachini's Leadership

To The Editor:

I would like to add my voice to those who are disappointed with the Agawam High School Athletic Department's decision not to rehire Paul Bachini as golf coach. I had the privilege of playing for Coach Bachini for four years, and I am simply amazed that a man of his integrity and character is being asked to step down.

Coach Bachini never tried to teach us the mechanics of the golf swing, but he always tried to teach us the positive thinking that is necessary both on the course and in real life. He always believed in us, telling us that we could hit a shot close to the hole or make an important putt. He also taught us to shrug off the bad shots, to never lose our temper or give up, but instead to keep trying, as shown in one of his favorite sayings: "The most important shot in golf is your next one."

Coach Bachini also instilled in us respect in many forms. He demanded our respect, of course, but he respected us in return. He also taught us to respect the game of golf by using proper etiquette and conducting ourselves like gentlemen during matches and tournaments. He constantly reminded us that it was important to make a good impression so we would be invited back to the courses we played at.

Most importantly, the coach taught us to enjoy the game and to have fun playing. He told us to be proud of our accomplishments, but I know he was just as proud as we were when we won our four Valley Wheel championships.

I ask the Athletic Department to reconsider their decision. It's unfortunate that Coach Bachini will probably not be allowed to coach anymore, but it is even worse that Agawam's future golfers will not have the chance to develop their golf games and their lives under his leadership.

Sincerely,
Keith Jendza
Feeding Hills

Wrestling Booster Club's Pancake Breakfast Is A Success

To The Editor:

The wrestling team and Booster Club would like to thank all the people who showed up to support the team at our first Pancake Breakfast and helped make it a success.

The fans, parents of the wrestlers who helped out behind the scenes, and all the town's well-wishers were very much appreciated. A special

thanks to Joe Valenti and the Italian Sports Club for the use of the facilities.

Without the sustained support of the townspeople and volunteer staff who give their time and efforts to the betterment of the wrestlers, the programs for the wrestlers now available would not be possible.

Just a quick reminder that we have three remaining home matches left. Amherst on the 21st, West Springfield on the 27th, and finally Ludlow on February 3rd, which will be Coach Tomkiel's last home meet. All three meets start at 7:00 p.m.

Let's turn out to show Coach Tomkiel our appreciation for his 25 years of dedicated service and guiding Agawam wrestling to its current level as a top-notch program and a force to be dealt with.

Regards,
Agawam Wrestling Booster Club

Cheerleaders' Golf Tourney Is An Enormous Success

To The Editor:

The Agawam varsity cheerleaders and Booster Club would like to thank everyone who helped make our second annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser such an enormous success.

To all the area businesses who contributed funds or prizes, your support means everything to the girls. The youth of Agawam are very lucky to have such a generous and caring community in which to live.

To all the golfers who made the day "extra special," your kindness speaks louder than words. To Crestview Country Club and their incredible staff, your professionalism made our job easy, we thank you for making the day run so smoothly. We would also like to thank all the parents, family, and friends who served on a committee or spent the day helping out.

Your tireless efforts on behalf of the cheerleaders are always appreciated. Finally, a most sincere and heartfelt thanks to Sandi and Ken Forni. Without you, this tournament would not have been so successful. It's never easy to run a fundraiser of this magnitude and keep everyone happy, but you did.

The attention to every detail, small and large, made this the kind of event people are still talking about. Your kindness and dedication to the cheerleaders will not be forgotten.

Again, thanks to everyone and we hope to see you all back next year.

Agawam Varsity Cheerleaders
& Booster Club

Applications Now Available For Spring Session Of "Citizens Police Academy"

Town residents or business owners interested in attending the spring session of the Citizens Police Academy can pick up an application at the Agawam Police Station on Springfield Street.

The academy is moving to a new night and the sessions will be held on 10 consecutive Thursdays from 7:00-10:00 p.m. at the Police Station, beginning March 4th and ending on May 6th.

The class is limited to 15 participants. The application deadline is February 25th.

The Citizens Academy gives the class members a behind-the-scenes look at law enforcement issues in 10-week sessions offered in the spring

and in the fall.

In addition to participating in classroom discussions, academy members will tour the Police Station and the Western Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Center on South Westfield Street.

The classes will cover every aspect of police work from the dispatch desk to the investigative process used at crime scenes and will include topics like juvenile issues, use of force and officer safety, patrol procedures, gang-related issues, and crime prevention strategies.

All the hometown news with us, each and every week ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!



The Agawam Advertiser•News

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— Best local news —

Veterans' Corner...

VA Insurance "Dividend Hoax"

by Ruth C. Bitzas

Veterans' Agent — 786-0400, Ext. 236/237

During the past two weeks, I received several phone calls with questions on filing for the available VA insurance dividend available to VA life insurance recipients. Each year, I explain that there are no dividends available across the board on policies other than routine dividends on several policy series, but only to those veterans who have kept their policies in force.

According to this week's issue of *Stars and Stripes*, the recurring annual dividend hoax is surfacing once again this year: "The seemingly immortal 'dividend hoax,' a series of announcements declaring that Congress has recently passed a bill entitling veterans and service persons to a dividend based upon their prior years of service ... is confusing veterans who may have insurance policies. The hoax, previously surfacing each year as a chain letter, now is being disseminated on the Internet."

At some point in 1965, the special dividend news announcements of 15 years earlier resurfaced and were mistakenly published in several newspapers. The special dividend had already been paid out to virtually all eligible government life insurance policyholders, and there was no new special dividend.

The actual scope of the original dividend became fictionalized and some publications declared the dividend available to all veterans (not just WWII) and even to those who never carried government life insurance while in the service.

"... Because of the volume of these requesters for a non-existent benefit, Congress passed a law in 1970 that prohibited payment of any special dividend declared prior to 1952 unless the application was received before 1954. There has been no recent legislation authorizing any 'special' dividends."

The VA continues to pay routine dividends on several policy series, but only to veterans who have kept their policies in force. These veterans receive their dividends automatically on the anniversary dates of their individual policies. THEY DO NOT HAVE TO APPLY.

The VA has posted a warning about the recurring hoax on its Internet site at www.va.gov/vas/hoax.htm. The VA states that, "Unfortunately, this misinformation unnecessarily raises the expectations of veterans and service personnel and detracts from our ability to serve veterans."

This week, we are publishing our list of Agawam Vietnam veterans whose Home of Record is Agawam and whose last names begin with the letter "G."

If you or your loved one served on active duty in the military during a wartime era as outlined in Chapter 4, section 7, clause 43 of the Mass. General Laws, and you resided in Agawam when you signed up, you may be eligible to have your name included on the Honor Roll. Call Veterans' Service at (413) 786-0400, ext. 236 or 237 if you have any questions.

Remember, AMERICA IS FREE THANKS TO THE SACRIFICES OF OUR VETERANS!

VIETNAM VETERANS - "G"

David A. Gaboury, Donald J. Galica, Arthur J. Gallerani, Lawrence Gallerani*, Richard J. Gamelli, Paul E. Garceau, Michael L. Gates, George S. Gaunt*, Norman L. Gauthier, Richard L. Gaynor, Joseph R. Gazar, William A. Gazar, John V. Gedney, Francis J. Gensheimer, Jr., Joseph J. Gentile, Margaret A. Gerry.

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Robert C. Gracie, Michael G. Grady, Charles R. Granger, Daryl L. Grant, Donald F. Gravel, James T. Graveline, John A. Graveline, Michael G. Green, Robert J. Green, Robert H. Griffen, Jr., Rodney L. Griffith, Albert Grimaldi, James W. Grimaldi, David R. Guy.

(* Died while in service.)

FireWise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano
Smoke Is A Killer—
Stay Low And Go!

Most people have a natural fear of fires and burns, but feel relatively safe in smoke. The Agawam Fire Department warns that smoke is the real killer in a fire. About eight in every 10 fire deaths are due to breathing poisonous smoke and gases. Some victims never even see the flames.

Since smoke is lighter than air, it rises. In a building, it will go to the ceiling first and then bank down. It will wind up stairs and down hallways. To prevent smoke inhalation, get low and go. Crawl to the nearest exit as quickly as possible. Once out, stay out.

Although you can't see it, smoke is filled with toxic gases. Plastics, in particular, give off a highly poisonous gas when burned. Since most homes have a large amount of plastic furnishings and most offices use many furnishings and machines made of plastic, these fires can be deadly.

In addition, smoke contains carbon monoxide, a tasteless, odorless gas that causes confusion, reduced mental capacity, and eventually death. It is important to stay low to avoid breathing a large amount of these poisons.

It is also important to install and maintain smoke detectors to provide an early warning to fire and smoke. Exposure to smoke for even a few seconds or minutes can be fatal.

Smoke detectors give you the extra edge you need to escape safely. Every family should have a home fire escape plan which includes the use of smoke detectors and a knowledge of stay low and go. Even young children can be taught to respond properly.

No matter where a fire is ... in a home ... a shopping center ... a hotel ... an office ... a church ... or wherever, the response is the same: get down on your hands and knees below the smoke and crawl to safety.

For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

* * *

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GENERATOR - from Page 1...

where it was being stored last fall while the necessary permit from the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) to travel over state roads was under consideration.

In November, just before the transport rig was slated to begin the backroads trek to Agawam, a faulty weld on the transporter gave way during a test drive around the parking lot, sending transporter and cargo crashing to the ground.

No Damage To The Generator

Basile said the original transporter had to be condemned, but the generator itself was not damaged in the mishap. "The generator is in great condition," Basile said. "We've had ABB specialists review the unit and they found no damage whatsoever on bearing inspections and rotor inspections."

Hallamore Corp., the Holbrook, Massachusetts transportation specialist hired by ABB to transport the generator, worked under the direction of the Connecticut DOT in adapting a new superstructure, built by A.L.E. of England, for use with the original dollies. Several functional tests of the system prior to departing from Hartford proved the new rig was working very well, according to Basile.

"Our first major obstacle was a 90-degree turn soon after leaving the parking lot in Hartford," Basile said. "Everything worked perfectly with room to spare and the operators were very comfortable with the transporter."

After a week's postponement due to the weather, the entourage of transporter and two tractor trailer trucks was escorted by Connecticut State Police from Hartford to East Windsor for a one-night planned stopover. But, rainy weather on Monday forced a second night layover before the caravan could continue the final 27 miles of the trip, passing through Southwick and Suffield before turning onto Rte. 75. At the state line, Agawam Police took over to escort the transport to the power plant site.

"It was a very successful trip and we're very happy to have the generator at the site," Basile said.

After being delivered to the plant site without incident, the generator was left on the transporter overnight. By mid-afternoon on Wednesday, plant officials started moving the generator into its permanent location.

Agawam's Open Burning Guidelines

The Department of Environmental Protection has designated January 15, 1999 through May 1, 1999 for open burning. Certain guidelines have been established and must be adhered to.

The Agawam Fire Department will issue and monitor each permit on a daily basis. Permits will only be issued weather permitting and only to those locations meeting guidelines.

1. Burning of brush, cane driftwood, and forestry debris will be allowed.

2. No grass, hay, leaves, stumps, paper products, trash of any kind will be allowed. CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED AT ANY TIME.

3. Burning shall take place between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

4. NO COMMERCIAL OR INSTITUTIONAL BURNING PERMITS WILL BE ISSUED.

5. Burning shall be at a location greater than 75 feet from any dwelling or structure.

6. Outside burning for cooking purposes is allowed.

7. NEVER USE GASOLINE TO START THE FIRE.

8. Someone must attend the fire until completely extinguished. Have water supply handy at all times.

ANY FIRE WHICH IS DETERMINED TO BE A HEALTH HAZARD OR NUISANCE, WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE EXTINGUISHED IMMEDIATELY.

All permits will be issued from Fire Headquarters, 800 Main Street, Agawam. The phone number is 786-2662.

PLEASE DO NOT USE THE "911" NUMBER TO CALL FOR PERMITS.



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Melissa D'Alelio Joins Melconian's Boston Office As Part Of Mount Holyoke's Internship Program

As the swirl of activities and excitement that embraced the Boston Statehouse during inaugural festivities come to a winding close, Mount Holyoke student Melissa Marie D'Alelio is able to reflect upon how privileged she has been to view such activities firsthand. "It has truly been an incredible experience," she stated.

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) is pleased to have Melissa join her Boston office this month as part of Mount Holyoke College's January Internship Program. A sophomore at Mount Holyoke, Melissa has always been active in her town and academic community. As a Stoneham, Massachusetts resident, the eldest of five children, and the first to ever attend college, she has taken full advantage of the opportunities that Mount Holyoke offers. She previously interned with her town representative, Paul Casey, and was the Vice-President of the college's Concert Choir.

Last summer, she left the country for the first time to pursue her studies at the prestigious Trini-

ty College of Oxford University, England. This year, she initiated a fundraiser to help victims of Hurricane Mitch and is currently working on a fundraiser for victims of domestic violence. In future days, she hopes to continue her work as a Student Advisor, and member of Amnesty International, and the college Democrats.

A politics and English double major, she aspires to attend the Peace Corps and eventually law school upon her graduation in 2001. As a minor in high school education, she also hopes to eventually teach English and continually stresses the importance of education.

Senator Melconian shares a belief in the importance of education. Melconian has always been a proponent of the internship program mainly because she began her own political career as an intern for Congressman Edward P. Boland.

"I have always encouraged such learning opportunities," stressed Melconian. "It is important that students discover firsthand the process and

organization of government. Such an experience is very different from studying textbooks. Both study and experience when paired, however, produce bright, talented, and informed young adults."

Melissa has been able to talk to constituents and research different issues concerning them. She has been busy drafting press releases and speeches for significant events like the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. Above all, however, she has been able to observe the organization of the state legislative branch and to view what essential issues will be addressed in the upcoming two years.

"It has been really great to be here for such momentous and historic events, especially to witness the increasing prominence of women in government. Both the Senator and recently-elected Cheryl Rivera are active in paving the way for young women like me, and continue to do so," pointed out Melissa.

At The Middle School...

Zoning Board Mtg. To Follow State Of The City Address

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Next Monday night, January 25th, the Zoning Review Advisory Board is moving to a new location for one meeting only.

Ordinarily, the board meets at the Police Station, but next week's meeting is being held at the Middle School immediately following Mayor Christopher C. Johnson's State of the City address at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

The session will be a joint meeting with the Town Council Zoning Review Sub-committee, chaired by Councilor Gina Letellier, who also serves as chair of the advisory board.

Ms. Letellier said the purpose of the meeting is to review the proposals sent in by applicants for the position of recodification consultant and to develop a list of questions to be used by the advisory board in interviewing applicants at their February 8th meeting.

The consultant, an attorney with the experience in zoning reform, will be expected to make sure the existing code conforms with state law as well as identify any inconsistencies and illegalities within the code and any glaring omissions. A more readable code will be written, making use of dimensional tables, to correct any problems within the existing code and address important land use questions.

"The public will not be allowed to ask questions of the applicants," Ms. Letellier said. "But, if anyone has any questions they want addressed, they should let us know or come to the meeting on Monday."

At the advisory board's last meeting, the members seemed to reach a consensus that a list of standard questions would be asked of each applicant by the chair and board members would then have the option of following up on questions raised during the interviews.

Planning Director Deborah S. Dachos said the town sent out three requests for proposals to attorneys who had indicated an interest in the position. But, only one of the attorneys had responded.

Ms. Dachos said Foxboro Attorney Mark Bobrowski had indicated an interest in taking on the job, but with fewer meetings than originally advertised by the town.

Board members agreed to notify the two other attorneys of the revised proposal in the event they might be interested in applying. In the meantime, Ms. Letellier and Building Inspector Dominic Urbinati agreed to begin checking the references on Bobrowski's resume.

In recapping the issues raised at previous advisory board meetings, member Mark Hellstein said the applicant should be asked to describe the project team, indicating how much of the work will be done by paralegals and how much of the (\$10,000) budget will be consumed by the attorney's time. Member Anthony Bonavita said the applicants should describe their experience in dealing with historical districts, sign by-laws, industrial zoning, cluster zoning, and parking regulations.

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ELEVATION: Concept of the "Welcome to Agawam"/Riverside Park Bridge.

Tim Black, Riverside's New General Manager, Takes Fun Very Seriously

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

For Tim Black, a man who takes fun very seriously, the key to improving the guest experience at Riverside Park is all about creating a positive attitude and fun-filled atmosphere among the members of his team, the park's employees.

"The fundamental issue is improving guest services to deliver a product that is second to none," Black said. "We know our team members are the most valuable asset we have in giving people a fun-filled day, experiencing as many rides and attractions as they can."

As a manufacturer of fun, Black sees a vital component of his job as creating an atmosphere of celebration, exuberance, and spirit among park employees that will contagiously translate into a fun-filled experience for the park's guests.

Appointed general manager shortly after Thanksgiving, Black will take over the reins of an ambitious expansion plan as well as oversee the implementation of plans to alleviate the traffic problems on Main Street (that have been plaguing the park since the Carroll family sold their family-run business to Premier Parks three years ago).

Black said the park is working with the Massachusetts Highway department, as well as with the Agawam town administration, in implementing the recommendations contained in the latest traffic impact study commissioned by the park. No special events are planned for the 1999 season, and park officials are committed to working with the Mayor and Town Council in evaluating the success of traffic mitigation during

the upcoming season before reinstating the concert and special events series that were curtailed in the wake of traffic tie-ups caused by concert events two years ago.

The pedestrian bridge linking the parking lot on the west side of Main Street with the park entrance is presently under construction and slated for completion in March, barring any weather-related complications. And the paving of the parking lot on the west side of Main Street is expected to be completed before the season opens in April. Both measures are expected to significantly increase the park's ability to move patrons off Main Street onto park grounds and transport them to the park entrance with fewer delays and without constantly stopping traffic on Main Street for patrons crossing from the parking lot.

The Design Of The Pedestrian Bridge...

The design of the pedestrian bridge was undertaken in cooperation with the town's Beautification Committee and Historical Commission to include the town's seal and a welcoming message to the park as well as to the town. Part of the town's Gateway Beautification Project, the bridge features a red brick facade and incorporates safety steelwork painted hunter green along with streetlights designed to look like gas lamps.

With \$25 million slated for improvements in the upcoming season, the primary focus will be on improving the park's capacity for handling patrons by reducing ride lines and giving the park's guests

more opportunities to go on rides and attractions in the theme park and in the water park, according to park officials.

In keeping with company policy, Black visited the park in October as a guest before his appointment as general manager to get a feel for the place as well as a sense of what park patrons experience on their visits.

"This is an absolutely incredible property. I found the place to be magical — full of life and energy," Black said. "The park is growing by leaps and bounds. It's moving at a rapid pace and I wanted to be a part of that."

Earlier this month, Riverside unveiled their plans for the expansion at the water park at a Planning Board meeting, and plans for the expansion at the ride park should be ready within a month, according to Marketing Director Ron Severt.

A 16-year veteran of the theme park industry, Black has worked for Premier Parks for 13 years, most recently as the general manager of a theme park in Columbus, Ohio.

After graduating from high school, Black attended the University of Oklahoma for two years before leaving college to study paramedicine. After working as a paramedic for six years, Black returned to college and graduated from LaSalle University with a degree in human resources.

Black plans to reside in Southwick with his wife, Jennifer, and 13 month-old daughter, Addison. The family's new home is currently under construction.

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— Agawam Obituaries —

Audrey Phillips

Audrey Phillips, 90, of 975 Main Street, Agawam, died recently in Baystate Medical Center, Springfield.

She was the former owner and operator of My Lady Beauty Shop, Springfield, for 38 years and retired in 1977. She previously had worked as a beautician for 22 years in other area shops.

She was born and educated in Gardner.

She was a member of the Agawam Baptist Church and sang in the choir. She was also a member of the Agawam Bowling League and the Agawam Senior Citizens Club.

She leaves six cousins, Albert Phillips of Brattleboro, Vermont, Richard Holden of Avon, Connecticut, Richard Berry of West Dennis, Clarence Phillips of Bethesda, Maryland, Barbara Minasion of Rutland, and Doris Minasion of Manchester, Connecticut.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home, with burial in Evergreen Cemetery in Leominster.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Agawam Baptist Church, 760 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Cristina M. Santaniello

Cristina M. (Basile) Santaniello, 84, of 27 Joseph Street, Agawam, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

She was born in Bracigliano, Salerno, Italy, and came to Springfield in 1940.

She settled in Agawam in 1963.

She was a communicant of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church and a member of its Women's Guild. She also belonged to the St. Anne Society of West Springfield.

Her husband, Antonio Santaniello, died in 1988.

She leaves two sons, Pasquale F. of Gilford, New Hampshire, and Giuseppe P. of Longmeadow; three daughters, Rose Motyka of Palmer, Gilda Arnett of West Springfield, and Gelsomina Brooks of Irvine, California; two sisters, Carmela DeAngelis of Bracigliano and Belisa Calabrese of San Paulo, Brazil; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Tazzini Funeral Home and the church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Mount Carmel School Endowment Fund, 123 William Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

Sophie Charko

Sophie (Boryk) Charko, 77, of 809 Fruitland Drive, Deltona, Florida, died recently at home.

She was born in Staten Island, New York, and lived in Springfield, MA, most of her life before moving to Florida in 1988.

She was a member of the Trinity Assembly of God Church and its Saints Alive Club.

She was a former member of the Bethany Assembly of God Church in Agawam, and a Sunday school teacher and chorister there.

She leaves her husband of 51 years, John Charko; two sons, Daniel J. and Thomas A., both of Agawam; a daughter, Elaine J. Dana of Dayton, Ohio; four sisters, Katherine Morgan of Deltona, Mary Rich of Fort Pierce, Helen Rodolico of West-town, New York, and Ruth Reed of Chicopee; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Bethany Assembly of God Church, with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery, Springfield. Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Springfield Christian School, 627 State Street, Springfield, MA 01109.

Elizabeth A. Zucco

Elizabeth A. (Framarin) Zucco, 74, of 9H Castle Hills, Agawam, died recently in this town.

Born in Springfield, she moved to Longmeadow in 1971 before moving to Agawam in 1996.

She was a graduate of the High School of Commerce and a communicant of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, where she was active in the Mount Carmel School Parent Teacher Association for many years.

She was also a member of the Italian Women's Club for 40 years.

She leaves her husband of 51 years, Frank J. Zucco, Jr.; a son, John of Orlando, Florida; a daughter, Linda Ingham of Feeding Hills; a sister, Enis Bellini of Agawam; and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Tazzini Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Mount Carmel Renovation Fund, 123 William Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

Frederick K. Kerber

Frederick K. Kerber, 91, of 79 Carr Street, Agawam, died recently in a local nursing home.

He was the bar manager at the Oaks Inn in Springfield and retired in 1969. He was previously a bartender at the Highland Hotel.

Born and educated in Frankfurt, Germany, he came to this country in 1926.

He was an Army veteran of World War II.

His wife, the former Minnie Koerner, and a daughter, F. Brenda Cipriani, both died in 1993.

He leaves another daughter, Anna A. Kaplan of Enfield; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

Dorothy Dgetluck

Dorothy (Tidwell) Dgetluck, 78, of Agawam, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

She was born in Springfield, raised in Monson, and was a long-time resident of Agawam.


She leaves her husband of 55 years, John Dgetluck; a brother, Benjamin Tidwell of Feeding Hills; and two sisters, Ruth Tymeson of West Springfield and Isabelle Flebotte of Springfield.

A graveside service was scheduled at Hillcrest Park Cemetery in Springfield. Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Peter and St. Paul Russian Orthodox Church Renewal Fund, 188 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 10...





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OBITUARIES - from Page 9...

Walter E. Brown

Walter E. Brown, 80, of 70 Elm Street, Agawam, died recently at home.

He was a professional singer and baseball player many years ago in the Albany, New York area. He was in the transportation business for more than 30 years.

While associated with Hunter Manufacturing, Cleveland, Ohio, he collaborated with Strick Trailer Co. of Philadelphia in the design of their first refrigerated truck trailer. He worked for McLean Trucking Co. and Carolina Freight Carriers in North Carolina and New England as a salesman and sales manager.

At the time of his retirement in 1982, he was a regional marketing and sales director for a chemical company. He also worked at Fran Johnson's, West Springfield.

Born in Boston, he was a World War II Army Corps veteran.

He was active in Little League, an assistant state director of the Massachusetts Babe Ruth program, president of the Agawam Church Federation, and served the Agawam Congregational Church as moderator, chairman of the Board of Deacons, and director of religious education.

He leaves his wife, the former Dorothy S. Sherwin; two sons, Roger N. of Agawam and Stephen P. of Nashua, New Hampshire; a daughter, Susan P. Demarest of Newport News, Virginia; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

His body was donated to the Harvard Medical School. All services were private, and Agawam Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church, 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Charles W. Will

Charles W. Will, 74, formerly of 886 Main Street, Agawam, died recently at a Longmeadow nursing home.

He owned several small businesses in the Springfield area and Florida, and had been a long-time Chapman Valve Co. employee in Indian Orchard.

Born in Pittsville, Wisconsin, he was a 25-year Ludlow resident and a 12-year West Palm Beach, Florida, resident. He resettled in the Agawam area in 1991.

He was a World War II Navy veteran and a member of the Moose Lodge of Chicopee.

He leaves his former wife, Virginia (Danforth) Will; a son, Gary of Ludlow; three daughters, Linda Doll of Hickory, North Carolina, Dale White of Feeding Hills, and Karen Boduch of Ludlow; a brother, Edward of Columbus, Wisconsin; two sisters, Kay Beaver of Ocala, Florida, and Esther Perkins of Benton, Wisconsin; and nine grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam, with burial in Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Association, 11 Campus Lane, Easthampton, MA 01027.

Ruth A. Albano

Ruth A. (Misiti) Albano, 61, of 342 Southwick Road, Westfield, died recently at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

She was an employee of the Pamaron Temporary Agency in Springfield.

Born and raised in Springfield, she was a long-time resident of Agawam before moving to Westfield.

She leaves her husband, John G. Albano; two sons, Mark R. Hardy of Springfield and Jeffrey A. Hardy of Sarasota, Florida; a brother, Joseph Misiti of Hamden, Connecticut; and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 1111 Elm Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Elsie I. Magistri

Elsie I. (Malaguti) Magistri, 90, of Cooper Street, died recently at a local nursing home.

She was a manicurist and worked for 40 years at the Schulz Beauty Salon before retiring in the 1970's.

Born in Italy, she lived in West Springfield before moving to Agawam 35 years ago.

She was a communicant of St. Ann's Church and was a member of its choir.

She belonged to the Westover Riding Club and was a U.S.O. volunteer during World War II.

Her husband, Albert L. Magistri, died in 1972.

She leaves a sister-in-law, Alda Malaguti of West Springfield; a nephew, Arthur Pernice of Deerfield Beach, Florida; two nieces, Angela Ciancotti of West Springfield and Merle Ryan of Amherst; and four step-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at West Springfield Curran-Jones Funeral Home and in the church, with a private burial in St. Thomas Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Ann's Church, 576 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield, MA 01089, or to the Clarke School for the Deaf, 46 Round Hill Road, Northampton, MA 01060.

Claire G. Bertrand

Claire G. (Simons) Bertrand, 92, of School Street, Agawam, died recently at a local nursing home.

She was born in Holyoke and lived in Indian Orchard for 45 years and in Ludlow for 45 years.

She moved to Agawam two years ago.

She was a communicant of St. John the Baptist Church in Ludlow and was a member of the parish Ladies of St. Anne Society.

She was also a member of the Ludlow Golden Agers and the Ludlow Hospital Nurse's Auxiliary.

Her husband, Albert Bertrand, died in 1965.

She leaves a daughter, Claire Benoit of Agawam; a sister, Lorraine Catena of Enfield; and a grandson.

The funeral was held at Ratell Funeral Home

and in the church, with burial in St. Aloysius Cemetery, Indian Orchard.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. John the Baptist School, 217 Hubbard Street, Ludlow, MA 01056.



MARIAN L. HASELTINE

Memorial Service Scheduled For Marian L. Haseltine

A memorial service will be held for Marian L. Haseltine, formerly of Agawam, at St. David's Episcopal Church in Feeding Hills on Saturday, January 23rd, at 11:00 a.m.

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Julie E. Young Is An Intern At Melconian's Agawam Office

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) is pleased to announce that she has selected Julie E. Young as an intern for her District Office in Agawam for the month of January.

A senior at Mount Holyoke College, Julie was selected through the college's January Internship Program. The program offers Mount Holyoke students the opportunity to apply their interests and areas of study in an actual working environment.

While at Mount Holyoke, Julie has been active in a number of activities, including co-chairing the Peddlers' Fair, leading a Girl Scout Brownie troop, and holding the position of Hall Programming Coordinator. She is currently involved in Circle K, a community service organization, in which she co-chairs a seatbelt safety program run in Mosier Elementary School in South Hadley. Julie is originally from Middleboro, Massachusetts, where she received several awards in recognition of her school and community service participation during high school.

Her interest in politics has expanded through her studies at Mount Holyoke and through a previous internship in the Secretary of State's Office in Providence, Rhode Island. "Interning at Senator Melconian's District Office allows me to have personal contact with the individuals that are most affected by government. It is truly an eye-opener and provides an education that cannot be obtained by academics alone," according to Julie.

A Politics and History major, Julie is expected to graduate in May of 1999 upon completion of her studies. She hopes to continue working in politics upon graduation from Mount Holyoke College and would eventually like to continue her education through a master's program in public administration.

A Mount Holyoke College alumna and an original proponent of the internship program, Senator Melconian actively supports this program, in part, because she began her own



JULIE E. YOUNG

political career as an intern in Washington, D.C. For the past several years, Senator Melconian has sponsored a number of January and summer interns through the college's Career Development Center. Interns are encouraged to observe the functions of a political office through shadowing staff, performing research, and aiding the office personnel.

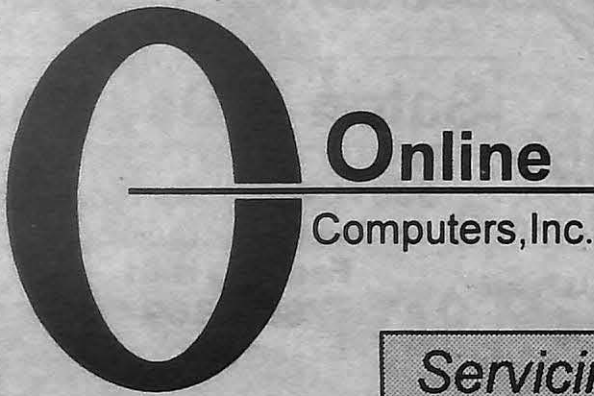
"Mount Holyoke women are bright, talented, eager, and have great training. The internship in my office provides hands-on, practical experience and is designed to enhance the education they receive from Mount Holyoke," stated Senator Melconian.

Regular Agawam City Council Mtg. Agenda For Tues., Jan. 26th

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 1/4/99
5. Declaration from Council President
6. **Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances**
None
7. **Report of Council Committees**
None.
8. **Elections**
None.
9. **Public Hearings**
None.
10. **Old Business**
(a)
 1. TOR-98-8-An Ordinance to Amend the Street Acceptance Portion of the Code of the Town of Agawam (Sponsored by St. Accep. Comm.)(3rd Reading).
 2. TO-98-60-Application for License for three (3) automatic amusement devices for Agawam Bowl, 359 Walnut St. Ext., Aga., MA (Tabled on 1/4/99)
 3. TO-98-61-Application for License for three (3) automatic amusement devices for Agawam Bowl, 363 Walnut St. Ext., Aga., MA (Tabled on 1/4/99).
 4. TO-98-62-Application for License for four (4) automatic amusement devices for The Sand Trap at Twin Silos, 1399 Suffield St., Aga., MA (Tabled on 1/4/99)
 5. TO-98-63-Application for License for three (3) automatic amusement devices for West Spfld. Fish & Game Club, 329 Garden St., FH, MA (Tabled on 1/4/99).
 6. TO-99-1-Total review of Council Rules and Regulations (Pres. Rheault).

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Windows '98 Advanced	February 3rd	5:30-8:30pm			
Microsoft Word	January 28th	5:30-8:30pm			

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Families

Masonic Lodge To Offer Monthly Sunday Morning Breakfasts

Sunday breakfast (all-you-can-eat) on January 31st and continuing on every last Sunday of each month, will be served from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon at the Masonic Lodge Building, 53 River St. (just over the Veterans' Bridge between Agawam and West Springfield).

This breakfast, open to all, is being conducted as a special Masonic awareness event. The menu will include pancakes, eggs, sausage, home-fried potatoes, homemade biscuits, coffee, etc. The cost is \$4 per person, \$2.50 for children. Elm-Belcher Lodge is conducting this event as part of their Masonic awareness program.

A program that included the Adopt-A-Highway cleanup program on Route 57 during the summer months and a CHIPS program for children's identification.

The members of Elm-Belcher Lodge are very active in the Masonic Blood Donor program. Over the years, they have received several citations for being top blood donors in the Greater Springfield area.

More information concerning the activities are shown on the Elm-Lodge web site at the following address: <http://www.masslodges.org>.

12th Annual Oldies Dance Slated By O.F.

Operation Friendship of America, a non-profit youth cultural exchange program sponsored by the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, is holding its 12th Annual Oldies Dance on Saturday, February 6th.

The dance will be held at the Polish American Club on Southwick Street in Feeding Hills from 8:00 p.m. until midnight. Music will be provided by D.J. "Dancing Dave."

Door prizes will be offered. Advance tickets are \$6; \$7 at the door. For tickets, call 786-3785.

Agawam Call Firefighters Complete Courses



DAVID PISANO, Chief of the Agawam Fire Department, and Chet Nicora, Senior Lieutenant of the Agawam Call Fire Department, have announced that three Agawam call firefighters have recently completed firefighting courses with the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy in Stowe, MA. The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy is part of the Executive Office of Public Safety Department of Fire Service. The Academy staff is from a variety of fire departments throughout the state. Pictured from left to right: Chief Pisano, Mike Nicora (who completed eight hours of classroom and live fire situations), Senior Lieutenant Nicora, Robert Mezzetti (who also completed eight hours of classroom and live fire situations), Brian Schneider (who completed 12 hours in flammable gas firefighting), and Lieutenant Gary Schneider. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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special for
you...**



**Join us for a delicious
POT ROAST DINNER**

**Monday, Feb 1, 1999 • 6:00 p.m.
\$ 7.00 - Adults • \$ 3.00 Children under 12**

Menu includes:

- Pot Roast
- Garden Salad
- Dessert
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**Tickets are available in advance
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“Purrfect” Dreams Came True For Homeless Animals

It may not seem like much, but some stuffed toys, dog treats, soft blankets, pine shavings, and cat furniture provided a more joyful new year for many of the homeless animals awaiting adoption at the new MSPCA animal shelter in Springfield. A Feeding Hills couple made a special delivery on New Year's Eve that helped make dreams come true for some furry friends.

The couple, Dee and Mike Lydick, organized a holiday season campaign to benefit the new shelter housed within the Western New England Animal Center at 171 Union Street. “Although the shelter moved into a new, state-of-the-art facility this fall, many people don't realize that basic items are still desperately needed while the animals are cared for in their temporary home,” says Dee Lydick.

“Basically, we compiled a ‘wish list’ of items that the shelter told us they needed. Then we mailed this list to our friends and business associates in the area who, like us, appreciate animals and understand the important work of the shelter. We asked them to collect items on the list or make a monetary donation,” she said.

The wish list was sent out in early November. “People who received the request set up shelter boxes in their homes or offices. They asked their friends, relatives, and co-workers, as well as customers or clients to donate,” adds Lydick.

Within a few weeks of the request, bags of dog and cat food, cat litter, pet toys, and other items began arriving on the Lydick's doorstep. By mid-December, the porch at their Feeding Hills home was overflowing with wish list items and monetary donations were pouring into their mailbox.

Local residents and businesses that assisted include Nancy & William Bellows, Richie Mitnick of the Sounds of Music, Donald H. Willett, D.D.S., Barbara & John Welch, Dorothy & Dan Maruszczak, Pauline & James Moran & family, Agawam Animal Hospital, Liliana & Paul Giusto, and Kathy Shepard.



SURROUNDED BY BAGS Of dog food, cat litter, and other donated animal items, Feeding Hills resident Dee Lydick (above) takes inventory from a holiday campaign to benefit the MSPCA Springfield Shelter. The items were delivered to the shelter on New Year's Eve, making it a joyous new year for many of the shelter's homeless animals.

“The kindness and generosity of everyone who contributed was overwhelming. It exceeded our wildest dreams,” says Lydick, who spent several weeks taking inventory and repackaging the donated items.

“We received many pet items as well as basic shelter supplies, such as postage stamps, color print film, paper towels, and index cards.” She added that the shelter operates primarily on donations it receives from animal adoption fees and local fundraisers. “These donations will definitely

help stretch the shelter's budget.”

The nearly \$700 raised will be used to purchase vital shelter equipment: a special heat lamp, an IV stand, and a digital feline weight scale. With the assistance of John Welch, another Feeding Hills resident, the Lydicks made their delivery to the shelter on December 31, 1998.

“Best of all are the purrs, wet kisses, paw shakes, and tail wags that will greet you when you visit the animals at the shelter.”

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**On “Super Bowl Sunday,” Win A
Delicious 12x16-Inch Rum Cake**

**Just stop in and sign up for the drawing.
Your “Super Bowl” guests will love our
fabulous rum cake, made in our kitchen. It
feeds 40.**

Deadline for entering is Tuesday, January 26th at noon. The winner will be picked at random. The prize may be picked up on Sunday, January 31st, at noontime (the winner will be contacted).

**Home Of Fabulous Pastries, Cakes,
Cookies, Bread, And Miniature Pastries**



Crop Walk Money Given To West Side/Agawam Open Pantry

Members of the Agawam/West Springfield Crop Walk Committee recently presented a check for \$1,741 to the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry.

The committee would like to thank all those who walked, worked, or sponsored to make the walk a success. A special thanks to the Agawam police for helping walkers cross busy streets.

The check represents 25 percent of all monies collected. The balance is used to help in national disasters and hunger problems around the world.



CANDY BOUCHER (far left), Executive Director of the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry, receives a check for \$1,741 from Bob Broga and Rev. Rob Donaldson of the Agawam/West Springfield Crop Walk Committee. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, January 25th: Hamburg stew (potatoes, celery, onions), peas & carrots, whole wheat bread, pears.

Tuesday, January 26th: Beef vegetable soup, chicken cutlet on a roll, lettuce & tomato, apricots.

Wednesday, January 27th: Meatloaf with gravy, mashed potatoes, carrots, whole wheat bread, chocolate pudding.

Thursday, January 28th: Grape juice, cheese lasagna & meatballs, broccoli, Vienna bread, cookie.

Friday, January 29th: Corn chowder, egg salad on a roll, broccoli salad, peaches.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

* * *

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* * *

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- Every Monday and Thursday, bring in a roll to be developed and receive a second set of prints or a roll of film for \$1.00 (1-hour, next-day service only; color only).
- On Tuesday, buy one, get one **FREE** on color enlargements from same 35 mm negative (5x7, 8x10, 11x14 only; glossy only).
- On Wednesday, when you buy one reprint, get the second one **FREE** from the same 35 mm or 110 mm negative (color, glossy paper only).
- On Friday, bring in a roll of 24 exp. and/or 36 exp. to be developed, and receive a **FREE** roll of film (1-hour service only; color only).

Offer Ends March 20th!

★ 24 Exposures For \$6.99

2-Day Service

(1 Set Only; Color 35 mm, 110 mm).



SARA SKOLNICK

Sara Skolnick Celebrates Bat Mitzvah At Springfield Temple

On December 19, 1998, Sara Skolnick of 48 Anvil Street, Feeding Hills, celebrated her Bat Mitzvah at Sinai Temple in Springfield. The ceremony was followed by a catered reception at the Temple for Sara's family and friends.

The Bat Mitzvah signifies the acceptance of a young woman into the Jewish adult community on her 13th birthday. This event culminated years of studying and preparation, including the learning and knowledge of Hebrew language, customs, and prayers.

Family members in attendance included parents Scott and Myriam Skolnick and brother Jared, all from Feeding Hills. Proud grandparents David and Barbara Skolnick of Agawam were present, as were grandparents Carlos and Yolanda Ulloa of Enfield, CT.

Uncle Herman Ulloa, his wife Kathleen, and cousins Samantha and Gabriela arrived from the Boston area for the event. Many family members came from as far away as Florida, Minnesota, and New York to share the day with Sara.

The Skolnick family wishes to congratulate Sara on her accomplishment and to thank all those in attendance for helping to make Sara's Bat Mitzvah an unforgettable experience.

Agawam/Feeding Hill AARP To Meet On January 25th

The next meeting of the Agawam/Feeding Hills Chapter of AARP has been scheduled for Monday, January 25th, at 1:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center.

Following a brief meeting, a special program will take place dealing with investment fraud. Since most elderly citizens have very little experience in the investment field, this program will become a useful tool in educating senior citizens in dealing with all types of "cold" calls from individuals.

Mr. Jerry Mallet, a representative from the office of Secretary of State William F. Galvin, will be on hand to enlighten the audience on how to deal with investment fraud.

Galvin's office has continually warned us of the dangers of investor fraud in our community. Come and learn more about what you should do when you receive a suspicious call.

New members are always welcome to attend AARP's monthly meetings, which are scheduled on the fourth Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center.

The Whelan Family Announces Birth Of Son, James Lino

Daniel & Lisa Whelan of Lynnfield, Mass. are pleased to announce the birth of their son, James Lino Whelan, on January 6, 1999 at Salem Hospital.

Grandparents are James & Claire Whelan of Peabody, Mass. and Lino & Dolores Gatti of Agawam.

* * *

Please be sure to patronize your local businesses...

* * *

Agawam Women's Club Schedules "Fashion Show" For March 21st At Chez Josef

The Agawam Women's Club will sponsor a Fashion Show to take place on March 21st. This will be held at Chez Josef with social hour starting at 12:00 noon and the luncheon will follow at 12:30.

Lorraine of Chicopee will furnish the fashions,

which will be modeled by our own members and friends. You may join us for a fee of \$20 and by calling 786-3091, 594-5355, or 789-1481 for reservations.

The Agawam Women's Club would love to have you join them for this fun-filled afternoon.

There's GREAT INTEREST in Westbank's New IRA Certificates

1 ½ Year - \$1,000 Minimum

4.96 %
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1 Year - \$1,000 Minimum

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Take Advantage of IRA Tax Savings
by choosing the IRA that suits your needs:
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call Christine Kozikowski at 747-1431
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MEMBER FD.I.C.



Services Available At The Agawam Senior Center

SUPPORT SERVICES

SHINE Representative & Senior Pharmacy: Get answers to your Medicare questions. Call the Senior Center for your appointment (9:00 a.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month).

Mercy Hospital Hearing Van: 9:30 a.m., one or two times a month.

Blood Pressure: On the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Blood Glucose: On the third Friday of the month at 1:00 p.m.

Health Focus Club: The fourth Thursday of the month, 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.

Fuel Assistance & Food Stamps: Every Thursday, 9:00 to 11:30 p.m. (November through March).

Friendly Visitor: Visits homebound seniors five days a week in their homes. Call 789-7199.

SERVICES

(You Must Call For Your Own Appointments)

PVTA Van Transportation: Monday through Friday for doctor's appointments, Senior Center events, etc. Call 592-8400.

Foot Care Nurses: On the third Thursday of every month. Call 567-1023.

Dr. Benjamin Dickert (podiatry): First Wednesday of each month. Call 737-3360.

Dr. Salem (podiatry): Second Thursday of each month. Call 736-3225.

Attorney Teryl Deegan: At 2:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month (by appointment). Call 789-2928.

Attorney Alan Ferrigno: At 2:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month (by appointment). Call 786-9454.

OUTREACH: Please note — foot care and toenail outreach available to clients in the town who are not able to get into the center. Also note — this service is FREE to any senior who is not able to pay.

OUTREACH: Anyone who might suspect that their loved one has the beginnings of dementia or Alzheimer's may request that a V.N.A. specialist come to their home to complete a mini assessment. They are then able to give you a referral to take to a specialist for a thorough screening. Call Ellen Nepomuceno, R.N., Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice, 781-5070.

MONTHLY GROUPS AT THE SENIOR CENTER (Any Senior Can Join)

Caregivers Support Group: The third Monday of each month, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Mental Health Support Group: The last Monday of each month, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Chapter 1 Golden Age Club: 1:30 p.m., the first and third Wednesday of each month.

Chapter 2 Golden Age Club: 1:30 p.m., the second and fourth Wednesday of the month.

S.A.L.T. (Seniors & Law Enforcement Together): 10:00 a.m., second Wednesday of the month.

A.S.G.A. (Agawam Senior Games Athletes): 10:00 a.m., third Thursday of the month.

C.O.A. (Council on Aging): 4:00 p.m., fourth Tuesday of each month.

If you have any questions, please call Gail Freeman at 789-7199.

Agawam Historical Assoc. To Meet On Tues., Jan. 26th

The Agawam Historical Association will meet on January 26th in the newly renovated "Minerva Davis Room" at the Captain Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam.

Mr. John J. Hess, a graduate of Agawam High School, will present a program entitled, "The Birth of the Automobile Industry and Transportation in Our Area."

Few local residents realize that Springfield and its environs was the birthplace of the automobile industry and many transportation innovations which impacted our entire nation. Mr. Hess has a keen interest in local history and was the founding president of the Springfield Historical Society.

Presently, he is president of the Knox Automobile Club of America and retains membership in many automobile clubs. All who attend this meeting will enjoy and benefit from Mr. Hess's extensive research and collection of memorabilia.

A business meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m., followed by Mr. Hess's highly interesting and informative program at 7:30 p.m.

The Agawam Historical Association invites its members, friends, and those interested in the history of our wonderful community to attend this meeting — a must for automobile "buffs."

West Side/Agawam Open Pantry Announces New Service Hours At F.H. Congregational

The West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry announces new service hours for the grocery site in the Feeding Hills Congregational Church. In letters to recent clients who live in Agawam, Feeding Hills, and Southwick, Executive Director Candy Boucher announced the site would be open on Thursday evenings from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

The site will be staffed by specially trained volunteers. Anyone needing food should bring a picture I.D. and official mail proving residency in West Springfield, Agawam, Feeding Hills or Southwick. Income verification is needed to open a file.

To eliminate some confusion about the two separate sites, Ms. Boucher told clients they may choose where they would like to pick up food, either in the Feeding Hills Congregational Church (behind Dunkin' Donuts), or at 1023 Main Street in West Springfield.

Clothing is available at West Springfield only, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Advocacy in the areas of housing, benefits, employment, education, and transportation is available on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., also in West Springfield.

"Our efforts to better meet the needs of citizens in Agawam, Feeding Hills, and Southwick are still being refined," said Ms. Boucher. "We want to accommodate the needs of people who are working during the day. Many would rather go to West Springfield where clothing and food are available at the same time, along with meals." Later this year, representatives from Agawam and Feeding Hills churches may be recruited as members of the Board of Directors for the West Springfield food and meal site.

Citizens wishing to make donations will still use the West Springfield address. There is no room for food or clothing at the Feeding Hills site. Financial contributions to enhance services to your neighbors in need may be sent to the West

Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry, 1023 Main Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

OTHER NEWS:

West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry will be getting a new name. During Open Pantry month, which is in March, the food and meal site will be given a new name. The services and mission will stay the same, but the organization will have a name of its own, no longer sharing a name that is used by centers like it in Springfield and other Western Mass. towns.

"So many people think we are related to the Springfield Open Pantry," said Mrs. Boucher. "The only thing we have in common are some of the people we serve."

AREA GROCERY STORES READY FOR SOUPER SUNDAY:

Anyone needing to shop for Super Bowl groceries will be given a chance to buy a few extra items to share with their neighbors in need. Special food boxes will be in your area grocery store through Sunday, January 31st. "We hope people enjoy their Super Bowl Sunday," said Candy Boucher, Executive Director of the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry. "But we challenge folks to consider their neighbors who struggle for basic food."

FOOD PANTRY DIRECTOR READY TO TAKE YOUR BETS!

Anyone tired of losing money on football wagers to their friends and relatives is invited to send all bets to Candy A. Boucher, Executive Director of the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry. Any donations received from Super Bowl betters will be used to feed and clothe needy men, women, and children.

"One dollar or \$100 sent to me is a sure thing," says Mrs. Boucher. Send your wagers to Souper Bowl, 1023 Main Street, West Springfield, MA 01089. "Anyone who still enjoys the thrill of the wager can also send me their winnings!" said Mrs. Boucher.

Agawam Women's Club To Meet On Monday, January 25th, At The Captain Leonard House

The January meeting of the Agawam Women's Club will be held on January 25th at the Leonard House at 7:30 p.m. An evening of fun and fellowship will be enjoyed as we try to win at BINGO.

The Invocation will be read by Mrs. Bruno Maule, and the evening's refreshments will be

served by Mrs. Richard Chapman and her committee.

Members are asked to please remember to bring donations for the baskets (a Gourmet Basket, a Kitchen Basket, and a Bath Basket) that will be raffled at the club's Fashion Show in March.

We always welcome visitors and newcomers.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you ... AAN!!!

Stop In And See Our New Home!

341 North Westfield Street
(Juniper Ridge Shops)
Feeding Hills

WFF

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Tuesday, January 26th
3:00 To 7:00 P.M.

Refreshments - Handouts - Giveaways
And A Special Drawing For A Gift Certificate

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Michael C. Nicora Earns RAA From Nat'l Realtors Assoc.

Michael C. Nicora of Agawam, holder of a Massachusetts Certified Residential Real Estate Appraisers license, has earned the Residential Accredited Appraiser (RAA) designation from the Appraisal Section of the National Association of Realtors.

Nicora, an appraiser since 1992, holds membership in the NAR and its Appraisal Section. He is owner of SUBURBAN APPRAISAL CO. in Agawam, specializing in Residential and Commercial appraisals. He also is a member of the Massachusetts Association of Realtors and the Springfield Association of Realtors.

The RAA designation is awarded on an ongoing basis throughout the year and recognized a high level of professionalism and commitment to the industry by members of NAR's Appraisal Section who meet specified qualifications.

Program qualifications to earn a designation include membership in NAR and its Appraisal Section, successful completion of several educational requirements, and state certification. The Appraisal Section's designation program was started in 1994 for members of NAR's Appraisal Section.

"These designations signify that the appraiser who earns them has gone beyond the minimum requirements to become certified in this field," said Biff Breeding, RAA, a Realtor from Slidel, Louisiana.

"Designees are more professional in their appraisal practices because of the added educational and experience requirements that come along with earning a designation," Breeding added.

Backed by NAR, the nation's largest professional association, representing nearly 720,000 members involved in all aspects of the real estate industry, the Appraisal Section was created in March 1991, to meet the specialized needs of the association's appraiser members. The section's objective is to advance the professional development and recognition of its appraiser members through specialized services, programs, and information and related products. The section currently boasts a membership of more than 5,400 professional real estate appraisers.

Nicora's participation in the NAR Appraisal Section and in the designation program reflects his commitment to professional integrity, trustworthiness, and advancement in the field of appraisal.

Nicora resides in Agawam with his wife, Paula, and their two children, Mikaela and Dominic.

Expo. Area Alumni Scholarship Fund Slates Winter Dance

The annual winter dance of the Exposition Area Alumni Scholarship Fund will be held Saturday, January 30th at the Dante Club on Memorial Avenue in West Springfield.

An all-you-can-eat dinner, including roast beef, chicken, potatoes, ziti broccoli, salad, dessert, and coffee, will be served at 7:00 p.m. Following dinner, there will be dancing to music provided by one of the area's top disc jockeys. There also will be a drawing for prizes donated to the scholarship fund.

The public is encouraged to attend the dinner dance, which is one of two annual events sponsored by the Exposition Area Alumni Scholarship Fund Committee to benefit college and college-bound students in the area. The committee has awarded more than \$250,000 in financial assistance to deserving students since its inception more than 30 years ago.

Dinner dance tickets, for a donation of \$20 each (\$15 for seniors), are available from scholarship committee members or by calling 746-1239.

Fish & Chip Dinners Held Each Friday At The Agawam VFW

Each Friday evening, fish and chip dinners will be held at the Agawam VFW, Post 1632 (located at 194 South Street, Agawam).

The cost is \$5.95 per person, and the Friday night dinners will begin at 5:00 p.m. and end at 9:00 p.m.

All the local news with us, each and every week - AAN!

Agawam Council On Aging Has Information On Food Stamp Program For The Elderly

When you are on a fixed income, it's often hard to make ends meet. Sometimes you just can't pay all the bills and still have enough money to buy food.

That's when food stamp benefits can really make a difference. People receiving these benefits are given their own account and special "charge" card that allows them to access money to pay for food. The program is available to everyone who qualifies for it.

Like unemployment checks, food stamp benefits provide extra buying power just when you need it most. But many people don't take advantage of the Food Stamp Program because they don't think that they qualify.

There are many misunderstandings about who can get food stamp benefits. Some people think that you need to be on welfare. Some believe that you can't get food stamp benefits if you are receiving Social Security or SSI benefits, or if you own your home or a car.

The fact is that you don't have to be on welfare to get food stamp benefits. And you may be eligible even if you work. It all depends on your income, your resources (property and money saved), and your household size and composition. If you meet certain guidelines in these areas, you may be eligible to receive food stamp benefits. And only a professional food stamp worker can tell that for sure.

How can you find out more about the Food Stamp Program and learn if you may be eligible? Call the Agawam Council on Aging or stop in for some easy-to-read information about food stamps for the elderly.

You can also call Project Bread's free Food-Source Hotline at 1-800-645-8333 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. for a confidential food stamp eligibility screening.

Don't wait. Find out about food stamps today. They really are a smart move in tough times.

AGAWAM PUBLIC MARKET

USDA CHOICE

Boneless Top Round Roast	\$1.99 Lb.
Boneless Top Round London Broil	\$2.49 Lb.
Boneless Top Round Cubed Steak	\$2.89 Lb.
Top Round Stew Beef	\$2.69 Lb.
Fresh Ground Round	\$2.49 Lb.
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$4.99 Lb.
Boneless Rib Eye Steak	\$5.39 Lb.
Boneless Club Steak	\$1.69 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck	\$1.39 Lb.
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.59 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$3.89 Lb.
Whole Boneless Top Rounds (Cut To Order)	\$5.99 Lb.
Whole Boneless Rib Eyes (Cut To Order)	69¢ Lb.
Whole Butt Tenderloins	39¢ Lb.
Grade "A" Chicken Drumsticks	\$2.49 Lb.
Grade "A" Chick Thigh (Quarters)	
Grade "A" Skin-On Boneless Chicken Breast	

DELI

Land O' Lake White American Cheese	\$3.49 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.39 Lb.
Hormel Genoa Salami	\$2.99 Lb.
Thumann's Gourmet Turkey Breast	\$4.99 Lb.
Russer Honey Maple Ham	\$3.49 Lb.
Russer Low Salt Ham	\$3.49 Lb.
Citterio Mortadella With Pistachio	\$2.89 Lb.
Austrian Alps Imported Swiss Cheese	\$2.99 Lb.

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Frozen Swordfish Steaks	\$3.99 Lb.
Frozen Cooked Shrimp	\$8.99 Lb.
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PRODUCE

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California Navel Oranges	\$1.99 Doz.
Washington State Red & Golden Delicious Apples	69¢ Lb.
Large Size Slicing Tomatoes	99¢ Lb.
California Iceberg Lettuce	69¢ Hd.
P.E.I. Turnip	25¢ Lb.
Large Size Chef Potatoes (50 Lb. Bag)	\$8.99
Canadian Carrots (5 Lb. Bag)	99¢

FROZEN & DAIRY

Hood 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$2.19
Hood Skim Milk (Fat-Free; 1/2 Gallon - Paper Ctn.)	\$1.39
Hood 1% Low Fat Milk (1/2 Gallon)	\$1.39
Grade "A" Fresh Jumbo Eggs	99¢ Doz.
Friendly Ice Cream (1/2 Gallon)	2 For \$7.00



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Congratulations To Mrs. Rivers And Mrs. Hallaman...

Town Of Agawam Says Good-Bye To Two Long-Time, Retiring Registered Nurses

by Kathy Shepard
AAN Feature Writer

Two registered nurses long under the employment of the Town of Agawam recently retired: Marialyse Rivers from the Health Department at Town Hall and Catherine Hallaman from Agawam High School.

A surprise party to honor Mrs. Rivers was recently held at Alexander's Restaurant in Feeding Hills.

Her secretary, Nancy Modzelewski, told Mrs. Rivers that she "wanted to try a different restaurant," but when they walked in, her friends and co-workers were there.

Chairman of the Board of Health William Euliano gave a speech in Mrs. Rivers' Honor. Her boss, Randy White, health agent for the town, gave her back her old nurse's bag in jest.

Her 12 years as Agawam's public health nurse followed an interesting background. Mrs. Rivers graduated from Mercy Hospital in 1953 and worked from 1953 through 1957 for the Visiting Nurses Association.

She then began studying at Boston College and graduated in 1960 with a bachelor's degree in Nursing. While attending classes full-time, she worked as a nurse at Emerson College in exchange for room and board. Although Boston really isn't far away from Agawam, it *seemed* like it was sometimes," she said, but she enjoyed living there, describing Boston as "quite a cosmopolitan city."

Mrs. Rivers returned to the Visiting Nurses in Springfield and was promoted to supervisor. In 1957, she had also joined the Army Reserves as a first lieutenant in the 309 Field Hospital. She met her husband there (as he was an Army Medic assigned to the same hospital. They married in 1966).

She was made a captain but resigned after the birth of their first baby. She served in the Army Reserves from 1954 to 1967. She briefly worked for the Welfare Department in 1967, but took time off to raise her family. She and her husband have raised three children - Stephen, Caroline, and Jacqueline (who shows a mutual interest in medicine as a veterinary technician).

Returning to the workforce in 1971, she worked for the Veterans' Administration at 95 State Street in Springfield until 1980.

In 1986, Mrs. Rivers was hired by the Springfield Board of Health. After a year there, she heard that Agawam's town nurse was retiring. She applied for and was hired for the position in July 1987.

Of various concerns and initiatives over the years, Mrs. Rivers recalls the Well Baby Clinic. The town hired a pediatrician who would go once a month to the Agawam Senior Center or Agawam High School (during evening hours for the convenience of parents). Babies could be brought there for vaccinations and immunizations. With the advent of Medicaid and HMO's, people would go to their own doctors, and the Well Baby Clinic dissolved.

Over the years, Mrs. Rivers has kept busy with Health Screening Day for the elderly, which would be held at the Senior Center; taking blood pressures twice a month at the Senior Center; and once a month at the Danahy and Pheasant Hill housing projects. Other events such as health fairs and outbreaks of illnesses which required monitoring have kept her days active as well.

Mrs. Rivers has worked closely with many of the doctors in town and remembers them fondly. As for her work environment, she felt she could work on her own, but she always knew she could turn to her boss, Randy White, who is an energetic, upbeat person. She also feels she was lucky to have worked with Mrs. Modzelewski, whom she called a great secretary and a real friend.

There have been regular duties which Mrs. Rivers will miss, yet she feels this is the the right time for her retirement. After an unusual and interesting life, Mrs. Rivers is due this fitting con-



MARIALYSE RIVERS



CATHERINE HALLAMAN

clusion to her working career.

Retirement sounds attractive to Catherine Hallaman, who ended her 31-plus years as school nurse at Agawam High School recently. Her retirement party at Crestview Country Club was arranged by staff members Jane Williams, Joanne Bertrand, and Barbara Stevens, who had worked with Mrs. Hallaman at the High School for many years.

Mrs. Hallaman saw many changes since September 1967 when she left her position at Springfield Hospital (now known as Baystate Medical Center) to come to Agawam High. "The society itself has changed a lot. Things are much more complex," she points out, but she enjoyed her work very much.

In the 1950's when Mrs. Hallaman was readying for her career as a nurse, schooling for nursing was different than it is today. "It was almost like living in a convent. We lived right at the hospital, and had mandatory quiet hours. Lights went out at 10:00. And instead of leaving to go elsewhere for classes, the professors came to us and lectured."

The nursing school program, she recalls, was three calendar years, during which time the students bonded. It was a good experience, and she made "wonderful friends during those years."

After graduation, Mrs. Hallaman worked at Springfield Hospital for 11 years until she took the job at Agawam. The most difficult times, she remembers, were when she wanted to help a student but there were not simple solutions. Pleasant memories she will always treasure will be of the times she was able to help the students with problems, both physical and emotional. "It was always gratifying to help lead someone in a direction that turned out right for them," she states.

At first hired by the Agawam School Department, Mrs. Hallaman's positions instead became part of Agawam's Health Department in 1972 when Agawam's town government shifted from the old Selectmen-Town Meeting to a Town Manager system.

Mrs. Hallaman has also been part of a three-member Student Assistance Program since its inception about nine years ago. A grant provided training for this responsibility. "This involved being part of a team to whom kids with any problems or difficulties could be referred. The team would be there to give help and guidance of these teens," she said.

After many years devoted to this responsible position, Mrs. Hallaman plans for her retirement, "Doing what I want to do," and "resting." She brings many good memories with her. Her sister, incidentally, is Nancy Modzelewski, the Health Department's secretary.

A Way of Living

When you give away some of the light from the candle, by lighting another person's candle, there isn't less light because you've given some away-there's more. That works with love, too. And for growth. When everybody grows, there's more of-and for-everybody.

Kaleel Jamison



Tai Chi Classes Offered On Mondays At Spfld. Turnverein

Tai Chi classes are being offered at the Springfield Turnverein every Monday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese form of exercise which improves concentration, coordination, flexibility, and balance. Our instructor is the well-known Baiqing Li.

All age groups are invited to join us. For more information, please call Christa at 786-0143.

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Hampden County Chiropractic
850 Springfield Street
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786-4820

Church News



AT THE TRADING POST CONSIGNMENT SHOP, held at the First Baptist Church of Agawam (from left to right): Arline Smith, Ruth Roberts, Emma Cross, Bernice Nowill, Dot Smith, Leona Booska, and Martha Theodorowicz. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Trading Post Seeks Good, Used Clothes

THE TRADING POST CONSIGNMENT SHOP, now in its 41st year, is a shop conducted at the First Baptist Church of Agawam by volunteers. This project provides much service to our community as well as our neighboring communities.

The shop enables people to pass along items that are no longer needed but which might be just what someone else would like, and which, at the

same time, helps our causes.

We are looking for good, used clothes for all ages and sizes, as well as small appliances and household items that are in good condition.

The Trading Post is open on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

We invite you to stop by and see us — you'll be glad you did!

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ADVERTISER NEWS

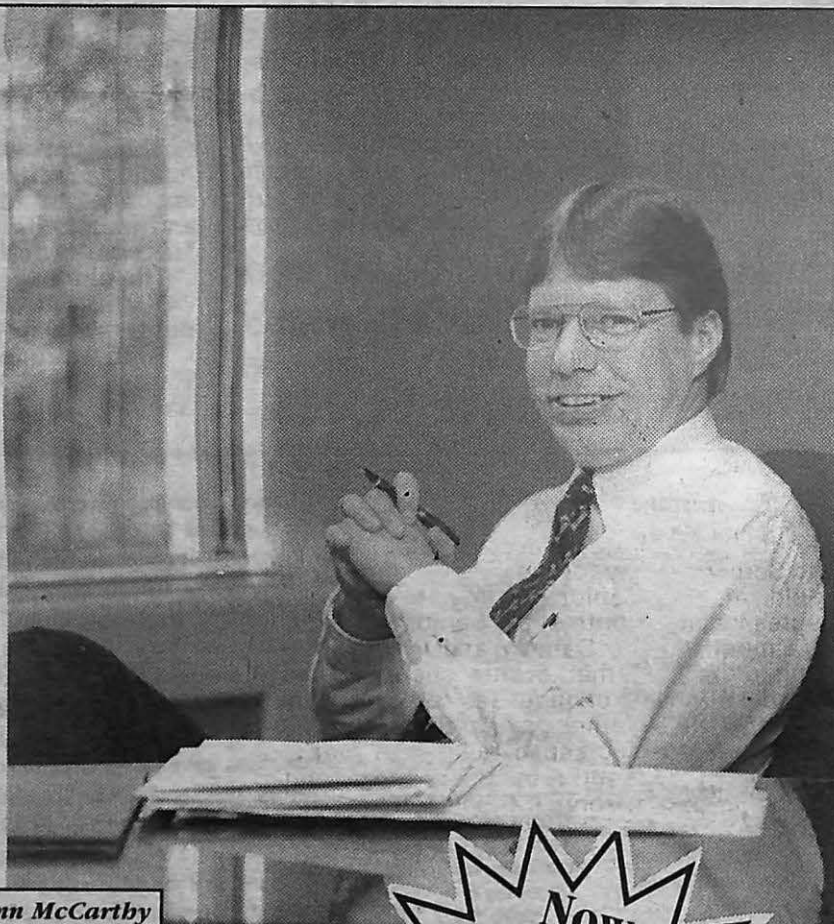
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Church News - continued...



Reflections...
submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the New Life
Christian Church,
Suffield, CT
(860) 668-4444 or
(413) 786-8735

Be All That You Can Be!

"Be all that you can be!" With that catchy phrase, the U.S. Army seeks to encourage young people to join their ranks. Going one step further, the Marine Corps advertises, "The few. The proud. The Marines." In each case, the message is the same, as the military appeals to the innate desire in people to be great.

Back in our youth, when we thought about what we'd like to be when we grew up, each of us aspired to be great at whatever we would do. Even in those days, our ambition was to excel, whether it be at sports or something else.

God wants us to be great, too. It is not God's desire that we should fail, or even be mediocre, in what we do. God wants those of us who are married to be great spouses. He wants those of us who have children to be great parents. God wants us to be the very best we can be.

Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord. We do not have to be mediocre in any of the important areas of our lives. The Bible tells us it is possible to be great, because God makes it possible.

In 1 Corinthians, the Bible says, "You are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The word that is used in this passage for spiritual gift is one with a broad application. The word used here is *charisma*.

Many people have heard of this word, which is often used to describe charming or dynamic people.

ple. Actually, the word *charisma* has nothing to do with being charming or dynamic, but it does have a wonderful meaning.

Charisma is a gift of grace given by God. Its first application would address our overall spiritual condition, and God's remedy for it. Each of us knows that we do not measure up to our own standards for ourselves, that none of us is perfect.

How much more do we not measure up to the standards of a perfect and holy God? Yet we are told that God has made a provision for our situation.

Jesus said, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." Elsewhere the Bible also says, "By grace you have been saved."

* * *

Once we have received, or entered into, this part of the *charisma* of God, there are other ways in which God would have us be great. The word *charisma* also refers to the building of character in people.

Our character is not only important to us, it is also important to God. All of the qualifications for Church leadership listed in the Bible are related to character, rather than to abilities. Most, if not all, of us want to be people of great integrity.

Those of use who are parents want to be the type of people our children can look up to with respect. In all honesty, each of us know we have flaws in some way. However, our character flaws do not have to be permanent.

If we confess our sins, He who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Another aspect of *charisma* is an empowering by God to do special things, or miracles. Throughout the Bible, we read about God's servants performing various miracles, such as healings.

That is not just myth or folklore. It really happened then and it really happens today. Miracles, by definition, don't happen often, but they do occur. Along these lines, *charisma* also refers to the answering of prayers.

God wants to bless us. There is no shortage of *charisma* from God. Through the *charisma* of God, be all that you can be!

Ziti And Meatball Dinner At Agawam Congregational

The Agawam Congregational Church will be holding a Ziti & Meatball Dinner on Saturday, January 23rd at 5:30 p.m. The dinner includes ziti and meatballs, salad, Italian bread, and dessert. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.

The dinner will be held at the church located at 745 Main Street. Reservations are recommended, but a few walk-ins will be accepted.

Reservations can be made by calling Anne Hamel at 786-2908 before 12:00 noon on Friday, January 22nd.

News & Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Sunday worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m.

The Lectionary readings for January 24th, the third Sunday after Epiphany, are Isaiah 9:1-4, Psalm 27:1, 4-9, 1 Corinthians 1:10-18, Matthew 4:12-23.

Rev. Donaldson's sermon is entitled "How to Bring People In." Coffee Hour will be hosted by the Rose family.

Children are welcome to attend worship with their parents, leaving at the designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

* * *

Annual Reports are due in the office by Sunday, January 24th. They will be compiled and available for members to pick up on Sunday, January 31st.

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 7th, at approximately 12:00 noon. The Board of Christian Education is in charge of a pot luck luncheon that will precede the meeting.

* * *

There will be an evening worship hour here on Sunday, January 24th, beginning at 6:30 p.m. This service will be led by lay members of the church and will feature contemporary music.

* * *

The Open Pantry satellite site will be open here at this church on Thursday evenings from 5:00 until 6:30 p.m.

Please call the Pantry at 734-7969 if you have any questions.

* * *

On the calendar:

Saturday, January 23rd: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Creative Memories.

Sunday, January 24th: 10:00 a.m., Worship/Sunday School; Annual Reports due; 6:30 p.m., Evening Worship.

Monday, January 25th: 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts.

Tuesday, January 26th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Wednesday, January 27th: 1:00 p.m., Hampden Assoc. Church & Leadership; 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Choir.

Thursday, January 28th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

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ADVERTISER NEWS

* * *

O.F. Slates Roast Beef Dinner For Jan. 30th

Operation Friendship of America, a non-profit youth cultural exchange program sponsored by the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, is having a Roast Beef Dinner on January 30th.

Dinner consists of roast beef and gravy, mashed potato, tossed salad, vegetable, bread and butter, dessert, and beverage. Servings are from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Cost for adults is \$7.25, children under 12 are \$4, and children under five are free.

Reservations are appreciated. Call 786-8743. Walk-ins are welcome.

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RUNNING FROM GOD?

READ:
Psalm 139

Where can I go from
Your Spirit? Or where
can I flee from Your
presence?
—Psalm 139:7

Francis Thompson wrote a gripping poem that he called "The Hound of Heaven." It reflected the torture of his life during the years he was running from God. At one time he had intended to be a priest but was deemed unqualified. Then he turned to his father's medical profession but failed again. Angry and bitter, Thompson gave up on God.

From 1885 to 1888 he lived the life of a derelict on the streets of London, suffering the agony of an opium habit. Finally some friends snatched him from the pit of death and brought him to the God he had dreaded. Thompson was gloriously converted.

His poem is his testimony. As the hound pursues the hare, ever drawing nearer in the chase, so God pursues the fleeing soul.

No matter how far you've run from God, the "Hound of Heaven" is still chasing you. Just when you think you've eluded Him, you'll discover that He's still there. David, who wrote Psalm 139, knew he could not flee from God's presence.

We sense His presence everywhere. It may be through the patience of a spouse, or the warm embrace of a friend when we expected to be shunned. But God is there.

It's tiring to run from God. Perhaps you sense that He's pursuing you. If you do, it's time to stop running. —HWR

Relentless quest, this race for happiness;

Vain footsteps echo 'gainst a hollow soul;

What peace to cease—exchange our chase for God's

Relentless love that never lets us go! —Gustafson

**NO MATTER HOW FAR YOU'VE RUN FROM GOD,
HE'S ONLY A PRAYER AWAY.**



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Church News - continued...**Upcoming Happenings
At First Baptist**

"Breaking The Habit" will be the subject of Pastor Richard Barnes' sermon topic at this Sunday's 9:30 a.m. worship service. He will use scriptural readings from 1 Corinthians 10:13. Betty Murphy will lead the responsive reading.

Church school classes for all ages are held after the coffee and conversation time which follows morning worship. Nursery care is provided.

Visitors are always welcome at our services of worship. The First Baptist Church is an American Baptist Church, located on the corner of Main and Elm Streets.

Coming up this week:

Tuesday, January 26th: 10:00 a.m., Searchlighters Bible Study meets at the home of Dorothy Jenks; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth group.

Wednesday, January 27th: 10:00 to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open; 7:30 p.m., Women's Fellowship Executive Board.

Thursday, January 28th: 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

Friday, January 29th: 8:30 a.m., Church Women United - Annual Meeting (South Congregational Church, Springfield).

There will be a meeting of the Board of Deacons on Sunday, January 31st, at 7:00 p.m. in Lockhart Parlor.

The American Baptist Women's Ministries of Massachusetts will hold their fifth annual spiritual retreat on February 5th and 6th at the Mont. Marie Conference Center in Holyoke. The retreat begins Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. with a dessert social and ends on Saturday at 4:00 p.m.

"Claiming Our Voices" will be the theme, led by Rev. Diane Hooge. Special music will be provided by Joyce Goldthwaite.

Registration is due by January 22nd. Contact Nancy Edwards for details.

The Horizon House of Springfield is in need of new socks for children 11 years-old and under. Donations can be placed in the box in Davis Hall. Deadline for the collection is January 29th.

**Weekly Calendar From
Ag. Congregational**

This Sunday, January 24th, is the Third Sunday after Epiphany.

At Agawam Congregational Church, located at 745 Main Street, Agawam, Rev. Fuller's Sermon will be "Fear No One," taken from Text: Psalm 27:1. His Children's Message will be "One Team." Please join us at the 10:30 Worship Service.

The Heifer Project continues through February 14th, when money collected will be dedicated. Adults who wish to participate in this project may pick up an "Ark" on the table in the Narthex.

To help increase donations, there will be a "Guess the Amount of Candy in the Jar," and raffle tickets for three wonderful prizes will be sold in Bryan Hall following Worship Service at the Coffee Hour.

The Heifer Project International is a worldwide organization that began following World War II to assist farmers to increase their livestock. Today, money collected is used to purchase cows, sheep, rabbits, chickens, bees, and other small farm animals for the United States and other countries.

If you would like to donate money to this project, please send it to the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001 (Attention Heifer Project).

The Catering Committee is sponsoring a Ziti & Meatball Supper on Saturday, January 23rd, at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 12.

Reservations close Friday, January 22nd. To reserve your seat, call the church office at 786-7111 or Ann Hamel at 786-2908.

On Saturday, January 23rd, the K*1*2 and Club 34 will have a meeting from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Room at the church.

The Friendship Committee is sponsoring a Friendship Supper on Sunday, February 7th, at 5:00 p.m. The entertainment for the night will be a Talent Show under the direction of Tammy Washburn, Youth Advisor.

For more information about the Supper or Talent Show, call the Church Office at 786-7111.

ADVERTISER NEWS**Parish News And
Events From
St. John's Church****AGAWAM CATHOLIC SINGLES CLUB**

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month. Anyone interested in joining should call Frank, 789-2764, or Kay, 786-8442.

February 6th: Falcons game. Call Joanne, 786-1583.

BIBLE STUDY

Each Wednesday morning. Interested? Call Annette at 786-4977.

Each Friday morning, a video presentation of Sunday's Scriptures in Parish Center after Mass.

FOOD AND CLOTHING DONATIONS

Food and clothing for the needy are always welcome in the Parish Center. We cannot accept other items due to lack of storage space.

MEN'S RETREAT

The men of the parish are invited to come on a stress-free weekend. No phones, no hassle, no distractions — do what you choose.

February 12th at 6:00 p.m. through February 14th at 12:00 noon at the Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford.

For details, call Ray Provost at 786-6483.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Cathedral Placement Exam — Saturday, January 30th and Saturday, March 6th. Call 782-5285 for an application.

**Faith Bible Church
In Agawam Hosting
Year-Long Seminar**

Faith Bible Church, located at 370 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam, is now hosting a 52-week series seminar entitled "The End Times."

Presented by Pastor James R. Jasmin, this series of Tuesday evening teachings will present current prophetic truths based on Scripture.

Discussions will include eschatology, significant current events that point to us on a Biblical timeline, and what the new millennium is going to bring according to Scripture.

These issues need to be recognized, understood, and prayed over. As a Christian family, we need to be equipped to respond to every opportunity crisis may bring!

All are not only welcome, but urged to attend. Classes will begin at 7:00 p.m. and end promptly at 9:00 p.m. Please call 786-1681 if nursery provisions would enable you to attend.

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**Heifer Project
Continues At
Ag. Congregational**

The Heifer Project International is a worldwide organization that began following World War II to assist farmers to increase their livestock. Today, money collected is used to purchase cows, sheep, rabbits, chickens, bees, and other small animals for the farmers in the United States and other countries.

A \$10 gift can purchase a starter flock of chickens; \$60 can purchase a breeding trio of rabbits; \$120 can purchase a goat, sheep, or pig; and \$500 can purchase a bred heifer capable of producing three gallons of milk each day, and a new calf every year. And your gift multiplies as each recipient "passes on" the first-born female animal to new families.

Beginning this Sunday, January 10th, each Church School-age child at Agawam Congregational Church will receive an "Ark" to feed with money that they collect. Also, the "Arks" will be available to any adult who wishes to participate in the project.

If you would like to donate money to this worthwhile project, please make your check payable to "Heifer Project," c/o the Agawam Congregational Church, and send it to: 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001 (Attention Heifer Project).

The project will run through February 14th, when all money collected will be dedicated during the Worship Service.

**St. David's Church To
Host Pot Roast Dinner**

St. David's Episcopal Church will be hosting a Pot Roast Dinner on Monday, February 1st at 6:00 p.m. The dinner will be held at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.

The menu will include pot roast, potatoes au gratin, garden salad, bread and butter, coffee, tea, cold drinks, and dessert.

Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. These may be purchased in advance at St. David's or at the door.

Proceeds from this dinner will go towards the debt reduction of the new church building.

For more information, please call (413) 786-6133.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!

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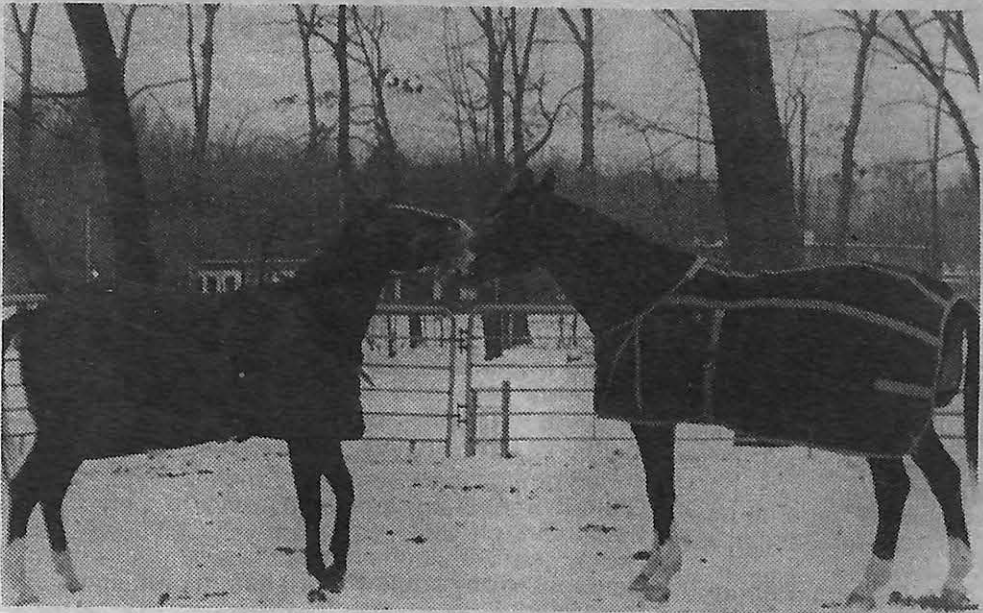
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Spotlight On Business



"EQUINE BOULEVARD," which opened on December 1st, is located on South Street in Agawam (near the entrance to Clark Elementary School). The business is owned by Holly Thompson, who has over 20 years of experience and is looking forward to offering her services to area residents. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

"Equine Boulevard" On South St. Is Now Open For Horse Riders

by Kathy Shepard
AAN Feature Writer

For people just starting to ride as well as those who are planning a riding career, **Equine Boulevard** on South Street (close to Clark School entrance), Agawam has been open since December 1st. Holly Thompson, owner, has been in business for over 20 years in the resort community of Litchfield Hills in Connecticut, and she is proud to be expanding her business to the Agawam area.

"We offer lessons for riding. We are a sale-and-show and training barn. The training of the horses involves mastering a course of fences, and we also sell other people's horses on our grounds."

The public is invited to call and questions are welcome. The facility is available for birthday parties or other special occasions, offering pony parties or other creative events.

"We have a state-of-the-art, very professional facility," Thompson says. They cater to the horses' needs, providing a temperature-controlled barn, hot and cold water for the horses' wash stalls, and they are working on an indoor riding facility.

Equine Boulevard is located on 16 acres, but abuts another 70 acres for riding trails. "We import and export European horses and have Jillian Briggs of Agawam as our barn manager. Our staff

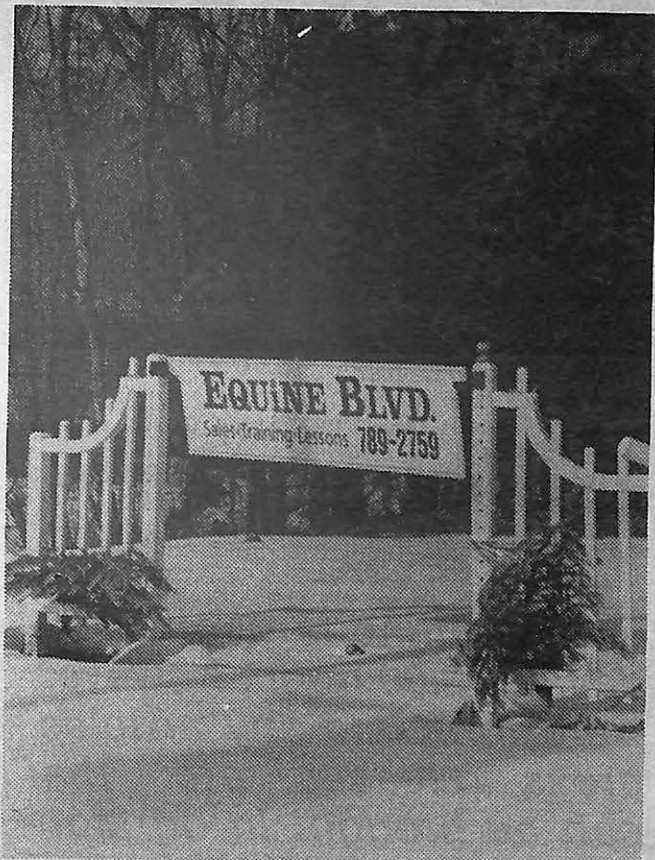
instructors and trainers are highly qualified and also very nice. We are trying very hard to find a nice balance for both beginning and career riders."

Equine Boulevard takes in working students, giving them hands-on experience working with horses. "We're anxious to have a nice program here and to have a lot of fun," Holly adds.

Just added to **Equine Boulevard's** entrance is a stone wall, calling attention to the new facility. "We want the public to feel welcome," Thompson reports.

They have a show-jumping arena and are planning a summer camp program, also to include swimming in the inground pool facility. On-grounds person Chris Faye cares for the horses with respect and concern, and the same consideration will be available for the people who come to ride.

Thompson wants to interact with the boarding stables and the other horse facilities in the area. She wants to cooperate and work together with others who have the same interests. "This has been a joint effort with all the other horse neighbors, and with the contractors who helped get this facility off the ground."



THE SIGN WELCOMING beginning and career riders to "Equine Boulevard" on South Street, Agawam. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Spotlight On Business - continued...**COMMON SENSE**

with

Raymond Rose**THE PIONEER GROUP****Home Depot Offers Do-It-Yourself Advice Over The Internet...**

Homeowners can now get personalized home and garden tips from The Home Depot by signing up for HomeMinder, a free, Internet-based reminder service being piloted on The Home Depot web page, www.homedepot.com.

"Home Depot is all about serving customers and HomeMinder does this via the Internet by delivering customized information for your home, yard, and garden directly," said Jeff Cohen, Home Depot Group President of Direct Marketing Business. "HomeMinder is also the first interactive product being tested on our web site. It's indicative of the kind of service that will help define our Internet strategy in the future."

Cohen said HomeMinder is being tested to gauge receptivity by Home Depot customers. In November, which was the first full month the on-line service was available, 5,300 customers subscribed. Initial feedback is extremely positive, with 92 percent of subscribers indicating they would recommend the service to a friend.

Homeowners can sign up for HomeMinder by visiting the Home Depot web site at www.homedepot.com and accessing the HomeMinder area in the upper right corner of the web page. They are asked some simple questions, such as what type of dwelling they live in and what year it was built. They also indicate their do-it-yourself skill level ("novice" to "pro") and specific areas of interest in order to create a profile for the automatic reminder service.

Once complete, HomeMinder delivers bi-weekly home-improvement tips to the customer's e-mail address. For example, if the customer wants information on gardening, a typical reminder might include tips on preparing a summer garden for winter, when to plant certain vegetables, and the proper times for fertilizing and insect prevention.

"Even if you get one great piece of advice a month from HomeMinder, it is beneficial," Cohen said. "It is especially valuable for homeowners who may have strengths in some home improvement areas and not in others, or for new owners who need reminders about maintaining their homes."

Legal Memo

by

Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454

**"Granny" Entitled To Advice, Judge Rules**

A federal law that made it illegal to advise people how to shed assets to qualify for Medicaid is unconstitutional, a federal judge ruled. The 1997 measure, known to its critics as the "Granny's Advisor Goes to Jail" law, was intended to prevent financially secure people from giving away or hiding assets in order to qualify for taxpayer-funded Medicaid benefits.

A State Bar Association argued in court that the statute prevented citizens from seeking advice on how to undertake a legal act and "struck at the heart" of free speech and attorney-client privilege. The District Court Judge presiding over the case barred the federal government from enforcing the law. This is a tremendous victory for middle-class Americans as well as their lawyers or other professional advisors. The Attorney General also found the law to be unconstitutional.

The law applied to anyone who was paid to advise clients about lawful transfer of assets to qualify for Medicaid and was punishable by up to a \$10,000 fine and a year in jail. The law initially would have made elderly Medicaid recipients subject to punishment if they sold off assets in order to qualify for Medicaid, leading some to dub it "Granny Goes to Jail."

An outcry by supporters of the elderly forced lawmakers to focus instead on advisors.

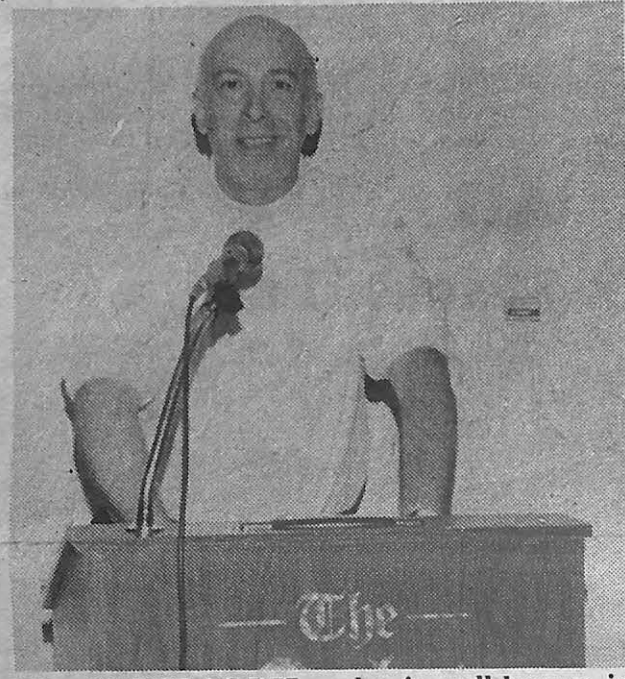
Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. If you have a legal question, Attorney Ferrigno will attempt to address the same in this column. Please send any questions to the address listed above.

At Ag. Chamber Of Commerce Breakfast...

THE AGAWAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE held a breakfast last month at The Oaks in Agawam. The entertainment was provided by the Agawam High School Brass Ensemble (from left to right): John Lennon (ensemble director), Charles Denison (trombone), William Campana (trumpet), Patrick Lennon (trumpet), Stephen Pilegi (baritone horn), and Tamara Watson (AHS band director). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



THE CHAMBER'S "Spotlight On Business" award was presented by Richard Mulcahy (United Process) and Linda Northup Vitro (Northup Electric) to Brook Ashby (far right), President of Penfield Productions. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



DR. STEVE SOBEL, who is well-known in this area for his presentations on stress-reduction techniques, was the guest speaker at the Agawam Chamber of Commerce's breakfast, which was held last month at The Oaks. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Hampden County Medical Group, Inc., Michael J. Jawitz, M.D., and Agawam Family Physicians announce the implementation of a new medical concept:

STAYING WELL

Effective January 1, 1999, Dr. Jawitz is changing the size and scope of his practice. He will continue to provide "primary practice" to over 3,000 local residents. However, much of his schedule will be restricted to teaching "wellness." Unfortunately, some of the patients who have been under his medical care will need to be transferred to other providers. Dr. Chauhan, our associate at 141 Main Street, together with Julie Abert, N.P., and Phil Yanni, P.A., should be able to provide primary care to the majority of our patients, though affected patients can transfer to any provider they wish. No patient will be turned away. It is expected that most patients will be contacted by this office and/or their insurance companies (in the case of HMO's) if a transfer to another PCP will be necessary. Until that time, no patient will be unattended.

141 Main Street, Agawam — 786-0880

Spotlight On Business - continued...

Pam Savioli

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Get The Lead Out...

Lead, which can cause high blood pressure, kidney disease, and brain damage, lurks all around us in plumbing pipes, paints, dishes, pottery, and even canned foods.

The good news is that it is possible to protect your family against lead poisoning.

If you live in a home built or replumbed before 1988, lead may leach from lead-based solder, when water sits in the pipes overnight. Letting the water in each tap run full force for 20 seconds or more will clear the pipes. Consider having your water tested to see if your water does contain lead.

Half of all homes contain lead-based paint. It poses no threat unless disturbed. If your paint is peeling, seal it up by painting over it. If the paint is badly deteriorating, it's the dust that is dangerous, so gently scrape paint off or hire a paint removal service.

A few manufacturers still use lead-soldered cans, so to be safe, buy foods in seamless aluminum cans or welded steel cans.

American manufacturers are required to fire pottery at temperatures hot enough to permanently bond lead to the glaze. Beware of imported ceramicware, which is not guaranteed to be lead-safe.

For more home safety tips, call Pam Savioli at (413) 748-7565.

Thanks, Luigi...



LUIGI's AUTO SALES, located at 371 South Westfield Street in Feeding Hills, recently donated their labor and material to refurbish the Town of Agawam's Weights and Measures Department's 100-gallon gasoline prover. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Our "Spotlight On Business" is a weekly feature of The AAN and just one more reason why you turn our pages.

* * *



DONALD A. WILLIAMS (left), President of Westfield Bank, presents a check to Sheldon Wolf, Vice President of Marketing and Development, on behalf of the Springfield Library and Museums Association Capital Campaign.

Westfield Bank Contributes \$25,000 To Spfld. Library's Capital Campaign

Westfield Bank President Donald A. Williams recently announced that the bank is contributing \$25,000 to the Springfield Library and Museums Association Capital Campaign.

Mr. Williams notes that, "The Library and Museums are an important part of the cultural life of the region. As Westfield Bank becomes more active in the Springfield community, we felt this was an important program to support."

The Association is seeking funds to upgrade the various facilities to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act. If they do not proceed with some of these improvements, future state or federal grants may be denied. Some of the funds raised will also allow for improvements to the collections storage capacity.

Finally, programs will be updated to provide the

public a more comprehensive experience with the collections. At the check presentation, Sheldon Wolf, Vice President of Marketing and Development, noted, "The Springfield Library and Museums Association has had a long history of serving people of Westfield, especially the school children. This gift will help extend our educational role for another generation."

Westfield Bank is one of the largest independent community banks in the area with assets of over \$580 million. The bank offers business banking as well as consumer accounts. Headquartered in Westfield since 1853, the bank has branches in West Springfield, Agawam, Southwick, and East Longmeadow. A new full service location will be opening at 1341 Main Street, Springfield during the first quarter of 1999.

THE PIONEER GROUP's Web Site Has A Wide Variety Of Real Estate Information

Need a glossary of real estate firms? ... want to shop for houses from the comforts of home? ... looking for mortgage information? You can find all of this, and much more, on **THE PIONEER GROUP's** site on the World Wide Web.

Company Principals, Raymond Rose and Donald Thompson, claim that it is one of the easiest web sites to tour in the real estate industry. Recently, Gary Lucia was promoted as its company's Internet Administrator.

"As Exclusive Buyer's Agents, we firmly believe that it is critical to service our clients with the highest levels of professionalism and care. Our

web site allows our current clients, and any new clients, to shop for houses at their convenience. Also, we have complete information regarding school systems and town demographics available," Rose stated.

Home Buyers will also find complete information regarding the benefits of using an Exclusive Buyer's Agent to purchase their home, mortgage pre-approval guidelines, mortgage workshop updates, and much more.

The web address is www.pioneer-group.com.

For more information, please e-mail them by using their web site ... or simply call 731-6800.

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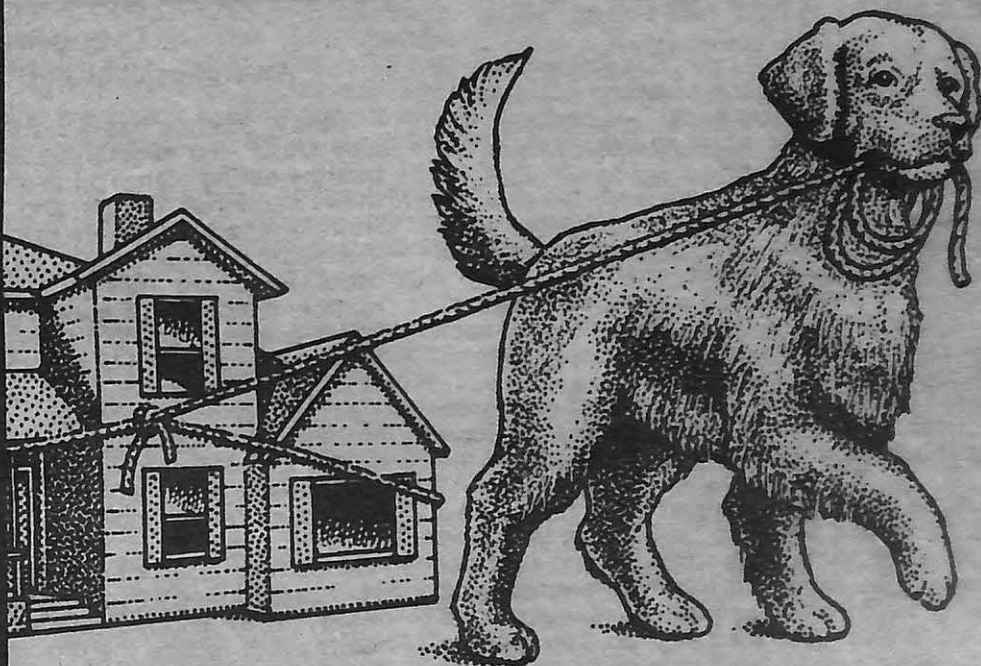
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For Your Health



Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph
S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer
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192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

Be Careful When Shoveling Snow

Be very careful this winter. Shoveling snow is one of the most physically stressful activities to your lumbar spine or low back. It is certainly one activity that will further injure an already weak low back.

Elderly individuals are advised to give up shoveling altogether. Find a neighborhood kid who is ambitious enough to help you. Have your driveway plowed by a professional.

If that is not possible and you insist on shoveling your own driveway, then condition your back for several months ahead of the snow season. Have a chiropractic examination.

Perhaps your spine may benefit from chiropractic treatment. During the shoveling season, have regular chiropractic care to insure integrity of the back.

The same snow which causes heart stress also causes dangerous stress to the discs in the spine of the shoveler. When you consider that a shovel of snow weighs from five to seven pounds, you realize the tremendous accumulative weight one has to lift to clear even a small area. The average driveway or walk will hold hundreds of pounds of snow.

Try these helpful hints:

1. Dress warmly, but don't bundle up so as to make it difficult and awkward for you to move naturally.
2. Use a lightweight, pusher-type shovel. Spray it with Teflon so snow will not cling to it.
3. Avoid sudden twists of the torso. Move the entire body.
4. Keep your back straight when you lift. Use your legs rather than your back.
5. Work slowly.
6. If you feel a twinge of back pain, stop completely and go inside the house, sit down, and relax.

If pain persists, or for an examination, call the SCHLAFFER CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE, 192 Shoemaker Lane, tel. (413) 789-1369. We care about you!

Cancer Support Group To Meet At Mercy On Monday Evenings

Persons with cancer, their families, and friends are invited to attend Mercy Hospital's Cancer Support Group. Meetings are conducted Mondays, 7:00 p.m., in the Deliso Conference Center, and are free of charge.

The group offers information on topics of interest to cancer patients, and provides an opportunity to share experiences in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. Meetings are facilitated by Sr. Madeleine Joy, S.P., of Mercy's Pastoral Care Department.

For more information, call the Pastoral Care Department, (413) 748-9453.



Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Lycopene: An Antioxidant For Good Health

Today, science has a better understanding of why fruits and vegetables should be part of a healthy eating plan. You probably enjoy them for their wonderful flavors and bright colors. But, fruits and vegetables are good for you, too.

An eating pattern low in fat and rich in fiber and other important nutrients can help prevent a number of chronic diseases, including cancer and heart disease. Eating the recommended two to three servings of fruits and three to five servings of vegetables each day is a good place to start.

Fruits and vegetables provide important nutrients, including antioxidants such as vitamins C and E, beta carotene, and lycopene. Antioxidants have disease-fighting properties that protect cells from damage by substances called free radicals.

Antioxidants work by neutralizing free radicals, which are formed when body cells burn oxygen for energy. They also may keep the immune system healthy and reduce the risk for cancer and other diseases.

What is lycopene?

One antioxidant in particular has received a lot of attention from researchers in recent years. Lycopene, which gives vegetables and fruits their red color, appears to have strong antioxidant capabilities. Several studies suggest that consumption of foods rich in lycopene is associated with a lower risk of cancers of the colon, rectum, prostate, breast, and lung.

In 1995 Harvard University study conducted with 47,894 men, researchers found that eating 10 or more servings a week of tomato products was associated with a reduced risk of prostate cancer by as much as 34 percent.

The protective effect of antioxidants on heart

disease has been well-documented. In a recently published study, men who had the highest amount of lycopene in their body fat were half as likely to suffer a heart attack as those with the least amount of lycopene in their body fat. Researchers have determined that the level of lycopene in body fat is an indicator of lycopene content in the diet.

Where do I find lycopene?

Lycopene is not produced in the body, so you can only obtain its benefits by eating foods rich in lycopene. Tomato products, such as tomato sauce, tomato paste, ketchup, and tomato soup, are, by far, the major sources of lycopene in the typical American diet.

In fact, these foods provide over 85 percent of the lycopene consumed in the U.S. Other fruits and vegetables such as watermelon and pink grapefruit also provide lycopene but in smaller amounts.

Lycopene is better absorbed by the body when it is consumed in processed tomato products, rather than fresh tomatoes. The reason for this remains unclear.

In one study, lycopene was absorbed 2.5 times better from tomato paste than from fresh tomatoes. However, cooking fresh tomatoes with a little oil greatly increases lycopene absorption. Convenient ways to increase your consumption of lycopene

Now that you know about the potential health benefits from eating foods rich in lycopene, try some of the following tips to add it to your diet:

- For a quick and simple dinner choice, open a jar of tomato-based sauce and pour over your favorite pasta. Top with steamed vegetables or grated cheese.
- When making your own spaghetti sauce, include some tomato paste and a small amount of olive oil.
- Enjoy tomato or vegetable juice as a refreshing and healthful snack.
- When choosing soups ... think tomato!
- Watermelon makes a light, fat-free dessert.
- Wake up your tastebuds with fresh pink grapefruit along with your favorite breakfast.

Sources of lycopene in the American diet (per 1 oz.)

Ketchup, 5 mg.; tomato sauce, 5 mg.; canned tomatoes, 3 mg.; tomato soup, 3 mg.; fresh tomatoes, 1 mg.; and watermelon, 1 mg.

Nancy Dell, MS, is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association. She can be reached at (413) 786-2957.

Various Support Groups Are Open To The Public At Noble Hospital In Westfield

SUPPORT GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous: Sunday evenings, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital, 115 West Silver Street, Westfield.

Free of charge. All are welcome.

Stroke Support Group: Wednesday, January 27th, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. In the Bronson Rehabilitation Center Dining Room at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals recovering from a stroke and their spouses or support

persons.

At this meeting, Jennifer Pottle, a Registered Occupational Therapist, will talk about Adaptive Equipment.

Diabetes Support Group: Tuesday, January 26th, 1:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals who have diabetes and their support persons.

At this meeting, Dr. Aliotta will address "What's New with Diabetes Neuropathy?"

"For Your Health" is a regular feature of The Agawam Advertiser News...



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For Your Health - continued...

SAFE KIDS Coalition Offers Tips For Winter Activities

According to Shirley LaRoche, R.N., coordinator of the Western Mass. SAFE KIDS Coalition headquartered at Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital in Springfield, parents and caregivers should inspect equipment and the environment for possible hazards before children engage in winter activities such as sledding, ice skating, and skiing. Remind children not to push, shove, or roughhouse while engaging in sports.

ICE SKATING

Allow children to skate only on approved surfaces. Check for signs posted by local police or recreation departments, or call your local police or recreation department to find out which areas have been approved.

Children should be taught to:

- Skate in the same direction as the crowd.
- Avoid darting across the ice.
- Never skate alone.
- Never go out on ice that an adult has not approved.
- Throw away chewing gum or candy before skating onto the ice.

If a child falls through the ice, he or she should stretch their arms over the ice and kick as if swimming, in an attempt to crawl back onto the solid ice.

SLEDDING

Parents and caregivers should look for:

- Terrain that is free of obstacles and far from traffic. Children should sled on packed snow (not ice) that is free of debris. Check carefully for snow-covered hazards such as rocks, tree limbs, and stumps that could endanger sledders or skiers.

- Sturdy and safe construction of equipment. Avoid equipment with sharp and jagged edges.
- Energy-absorbing pads on sled seats.
- Secure handholds on sleds.
- Easy steering, non-jamming mechanisms on sleds and toboggans.
- Gently-sloping terrain.

Parents should remind children to:

- Sled only on terrain that is free of obstacles.
- Make sure the bottom of the slope is far from streets and traffic.

- Always use a sled with a steering mechanism. Avoid makeshift sleds.
- Avoid lying flat on the sled while riding downhill. Always sit up with feet forward — lying flat increases the chance of head and abdominal injuries.

- Never ride in a sled that is being pulled by a motorized vehicle.

- Make sure the number of children riding on the sled does not exceed the manufacturer's recommendation.

SNOW SKIING AND SNOWBOARDING

With a few safety precautions, skiing is a sport that even young children can enjoy. Parents should make sure children follow these suggested precautions:

- Enroll in at least one skiing lesson to start off on the right track.
- Use caution when entering and exiting the ski lift.

- Do not ski out of control or go too fast.
- Be aware of other people on the slope.
- Wear eye protection.
- Wear sun protection even on cloudy days.
- Never ski alone. Young children should always be supervised by an adult.

SNOWMOBILING

Snowmobiles can weigh up to 600 pounds and travel at speeds in excess of 90 mph. Head injuries are the leading cause of snowmobile-related deaths. In 1996, more than 1,300 children ages five to 14 were treated in emergency rooms for snowmobile-related injuries.

The American Academy of Pediatrics has stated that operating snowmobiles is inappropriate for children under age 16. If a child is riding as a passenger on a snowmobile, be sure he/she is wearing an approved helmet.

"When properly prepared, your child's 'winter wonderland' can be a safe and fun-filled adventure," said LaRoche.

For more information on child safety, call LaRoche at 794-5434.

* * *

For the best in local goods and services, be sure to check our classified ads in each edition of the ADVERTISER NEWS...

* * *



Chiropractic Care
by
Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic Physician
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Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

Treating Injuries...

Chiropractors are specialists who are very good at treating musculo-skeletal problems, meaning dysfunction with the muscles and bones (skeleton). Patients who suffer with sprains, strains, falls, motor vehicle accidents, and overuse problems are wise to seek treatment with a chiropractor because we get to the cause of the problem and correct it.

An injury can result in a myriad of conditions anywhere from a strain of the muscles, sprain of the ligaments, joint dysfunction, disc protrusion/herniations, fracture to the bones, nerve damage, and many other disorders.

As a chiropractor, our first goal is to diagnose the condition properly in order for it to be treated correctly. A thorough history and complete orthopedic, neurologic, and chiropractic examination is conducted, with oftentimes further diagnostic tests to assess the region. The patient is then either treated with chiropractic care or referred out to another specialist.

With musculo-skeletal injuries, the muscles often spasm up to protect or immobilize the area. The problem with this is that during the healing process, the body overcompensates and lays down tissue that does not lay parallel to the muscle, which ends up causing fibrous adhesions and scar tissue.

That's why you occasionally hear people comment, "My neck's never been right since that accident; I can't turn it or it always gives me pain." This is due to improper healing at the time.

As a chiropractor, my goal is to decrease pain, inflammation, and spasm and restore motion to the joint. This not only creates immediate relief but also decreases the risk of future scar tissue and early degenerative changes in the spine.

So if you are injured in a motor vehicle accident, skiing fall, slip on the ice, lifting injury, etc., get diagnosed and treated correctly with chiropractic care. The alternative is to go to an emergency room, wait several hours to get an x-ray and exam, be given muscle relaxants and pain killers (which just get rid of the pain and not the problem), and many times be told to put heat on the region (which is incorrect; always apply ice to an initial injury!).

So make the right move when a musculo-skeletal injury occurs — see a chiropractor for complete care!

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, 786-4820.

Fitness Tips...

Hold On To That Resolution!!!

by Carmela A. Kirk, RN
Asst. Fitness Director, Fitness First

You all look great! Everyone is here, the holidays are over, and people look serious. This is our busy time; the machines and classes will fill up quickly. It's exciting and very gratifying to watch people come in at one level and transform to a newer, stronger, calmer, and more confident level.

It is a funny curve, as one group is seeing results there is another group that just disappears. It is common and natural; we anticipate it. By February, things will quiet a bit, and by March, those that have been coming (even just two or three times per week) are seeing some impressive results.

Statistics say that after just a couple of weeks, people will know if they are going to stick to their resolution or not. How are you doing ... can you tell?

There are lots of reasons people stop coming. One stems from not being comfortable in your environment. That is one reason we put each new member through a profile, first and second workout.

You need to start with a clear picture of what you are going to do. You need your goals verified and clarified. Start on solid ground and that can make all the difference.

Another reason people don't continue is that they don't see results quickly enough. It took you a long time to get where you are; it should take you a long time to go in reverse. Take your time, be consistent, and the results will appear.

If, after a couple of months, you still do not feel it or see it, contact a trainer or consultant so we can take a look at your program. Sometimes people set unrealistic goals, such as saying you will come six days per week.

That is like closing your eyes and jumping in with both feet and not even knowing where you will land. Chill out!!! Again start slow and low, progress regularly, and enjoy the process.

There are lots of different reasons for quitting. Watch for the warning signs. Other things get in the way easier. You put it off for later. You go more than four days without a workout and you don't feel like it anyway.

Quick, don't think about it, go work out, and quit putting it off! This is your health and well-being we are talking about.

Why was it you made this resolution? What was it that you wanted? C'mon, we're even open at 4:30 a.m. on some days.

Don't use any excuse, refuse to give in, and get to work.

Best local news...

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Arts

'MACBETH' To Be Suffield Players' 100th Production

Suffield: It is the ultimate tale of murder, madness, blood, and betrayal. As chilling and as tragic as when it was first performed in 1606, Shakespeare's "MACBETH" will mark the Suffield Players 100th show, and their first full Shakespearean production.

Follow the twisted fate of Macbeth and his Lady, from their seduction by strange powers and false promises, into their murderous plotting and senseless betrayals, and on to their slow disintegration and destruction.

A driving and passionate story of lives gone mad, "MACBETH" combines the best of drama, intrigue, and the supernatural.

Sharon FitzHenry directs the cast of 23 on stage at Mapleton Hall February 25th, 26th, 27th, March 5th, 6th, 12th, 13th, 19th, and 20th. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. with curtain promptly at 8:00 p.m.

For reservations, call 1-800-289-6148. The first Thursday is \$8, and all other nights \$12, with discounts for students and seniors with proper I.D.

Join the Players for this stylish and riveting night of murder and madness, "MACBETH."



"SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES," as the Suffield Players prepare for their upcoming production of "MACBETH." Shakespeare's timeless tale of intrigue, murder, and the supernatural will be the Players' 100th production, and tickets and additional information are available by calling 1-800-289-6148.

The Theater Project To Present Eugene O'Neill's "Hughie"

The Theater Project, the Pioneer Valley's only full-time theater, will present the Eugene O'Neill-penned *Hughie* from January 28th through February 6th.

Directed by Rand Foerster and starring Dick Volker and Roger Patnode, the play is set at a Manhattan hotel.

Tickets are available by contacting the box office at (413) 747-7797 during its operational hours of Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

WTG Reschedules Its Evening Of One-Acts

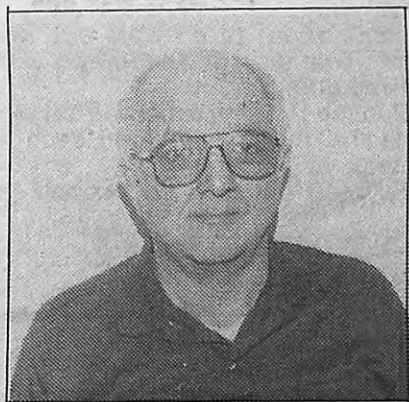
The Westfield Theatre Group, a department of the Westfield Woman's Club, has rescheduled its evening of one-acts.

They will be held on Friday and Saturday, January 22nd and 23rd, at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and seniors. There will be three one-acts presented, directed

by Tom LeCourt and Adam Bradley Maxfield. Returning WTG members include Kathi Palmer, Bob Martin, Shelley Haber, Marion Dunk, Cheryl Fuller, and Mike Tesini. Newcomers include Mike Henry, Chris Waldron, and Heidi Bolster.

For reservations, please call Westfield Theater Group at 572-6838.

Check our classifieds each week...



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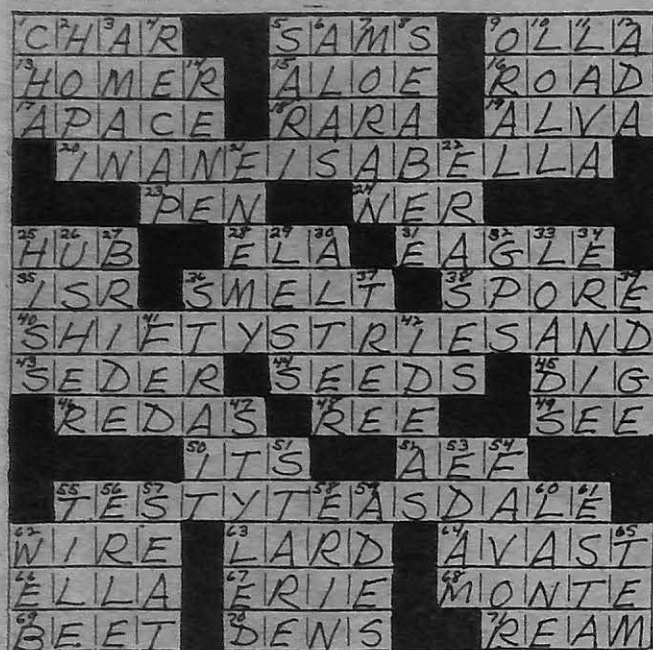
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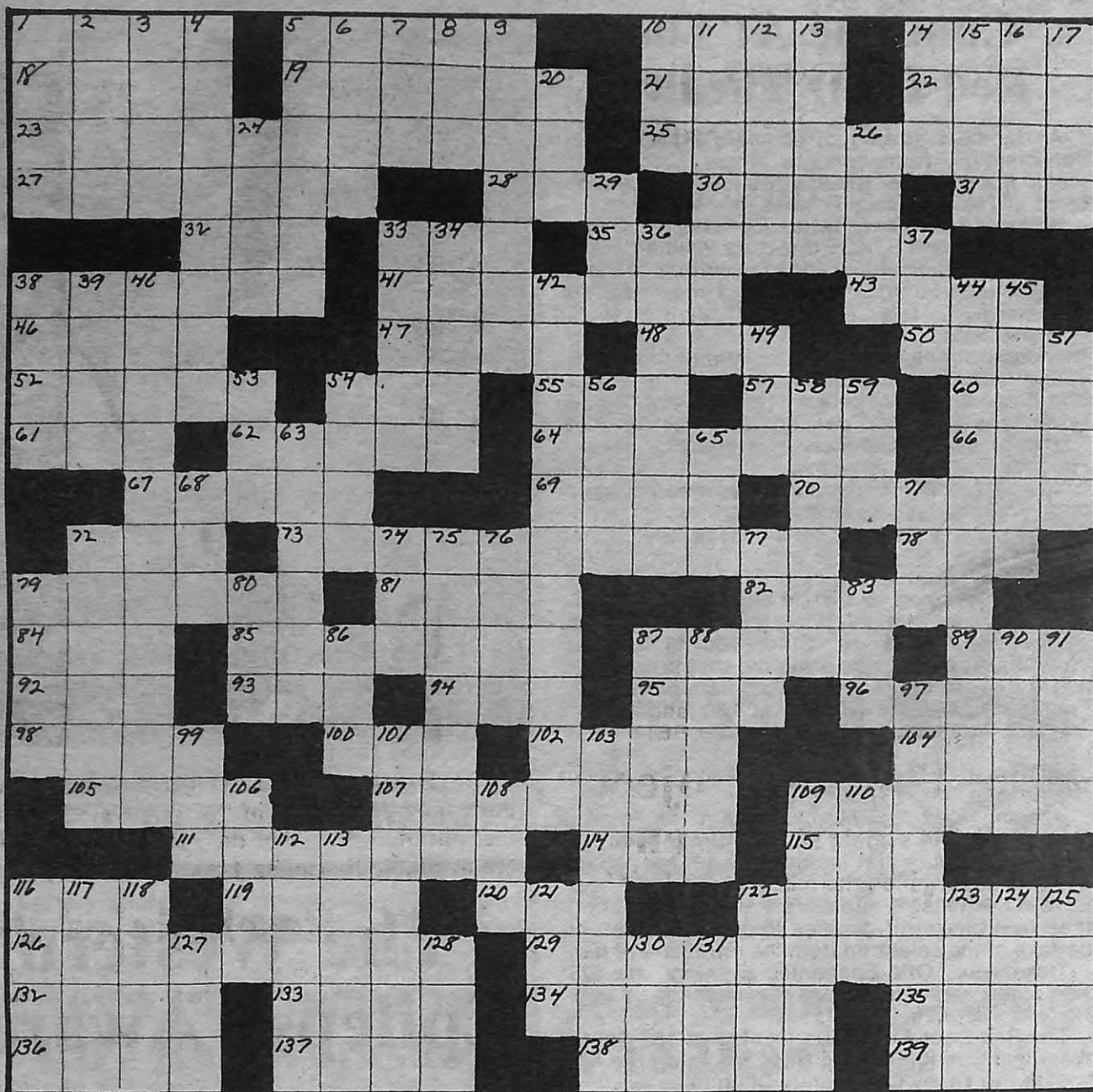


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Last Week's Solution...



Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



ACROSS

- 1 Waller or Domino
- 5 "— down" (eases up)
- 10 Idea (prefix)
- 14 Pond fish
- 18 Army group
- 19 U.F.O. pilots
- 21 "— up" (runs the engine)
- 22 Miss Piggy's word
- 23 Macadamizing unit
- 25 Part of a pressure system
- 27 Like a saw
- 28 Devour
- 30 Therefore
- 31 Female sandpiper
- 32 Little white thing
- 33 Former Mid-East org.
- 35 Omelette type
- 38 Sales effort
- 41 Gift
- 43 Loch with a monster
- 46 Feedbag item
- 47 Sweet wine
- 48 Cookbook abbr.
- 50 Lab burner
- 52 Wave top
- 54 "— Plaines"
- 55 Compass reading
- 57 Morning hours
- 60 Literary monogram
- 61 Health farm
- 62 Love in Roma
- 64 One with no memory
- 66 Land measure
- 67 Northern Calif. county
- 69 "— night out"
- 70 Type of switch
- 72 To the rear (nautical)
- 73 Warmed in a way
- 78 Aliens in space
- 79 Beams
- 81 Celebe's oxen
- 82 Robert Schumann's wife
- 84 "King —" (Egyptian ruler)
- 85 Air travel problem
- 87 Pale
- 89 Sis sibling
- 92 Boston time zone
- 93 Tokyo once
- 94 Doctrine
- 95 George (abbr.)
- 96 Claw
- 98 Come across
- 100 Brooch
- 102 Slave or yore
- 104 Printer's take out
- 105 "— Scott Affair"
- 107 Began
- 109 "Sub —" (naval ship)
- 111 Make music
- 114 Curved letter
- 115 Luxury site
- 116 Agent's percentage
- 119 Transport mode
- 120 Rooter
- 122 Walks unsteadily
- 126 Mississippi transport
- 129 Heavy tonnage mover
- 132 Over
- 133 Early instrument
- 134 Main arteries
- 135 Descartes
- 136 Rave partner
- 137 Swiss Alp
- 138 Vibrant
- 139 December ground covering

DOWN

- 1 Make waves
- 2 Pot offering
- 3 Row
- 4 Cloudy night
- 5 OPEC for one
- 6 Lotion ingredient
- 7 Tomlin to friends
- 8 Sportscaster Allen
- 9 Scoffer
- 10 Feared agency
- 11 Abhors
- 12 Turn inside out
- 13 Small ornamental tree
- 14 Tam relative
- 15 Siberian river
- 16 Vatican City locale
- 17 Calumet
- 20 Senora (abbr.)
- 24 Armor item
- 26 Dew time to a poet
- 29 Golfing area
- 33 Pullman berth
- 34 Sprang up
- 36 Rooftop item
- 37 Named (Fr.)
- 38 Fabulous birds
- 39 Western lawman
- 40 Mechanic for 25A
- 42 Big city noise maker
- 44 Cafeteria warmers
- 45 Traps
- 49 Dance step
- 51 Mimer
- 53 "— and feathers"
- 54 Word of warning
- 56 Peter Pan pirate
- 58 Central position
- 59 "— fi"
- 63 "— the mark"

- 65 Estimate (abbr.)
- 68 One of the oceans
- 71 Debussy's sea
- 72 Pleased with play
- 74 Hearing organ
- 75 Consecrates with oil
- 76 Pasture sounds
- 77 Iterate
- 79 Hold back
- 80 Eel (Fr.)
- 83 Carpenter for one

- 86 Bob Dole's party
- 87 Actress Moorehead
- 88 Spores
- 90 Actor's plum
- 91 Lulu
- 97 Connecting devices
- 99 Technical (abbr.)
- 101 Place alone
- 103 Loud voiced one

- 106 Campus home
- 108 "Black Jack's" WWI org.
- 109 Storage area
- 110 Biblical word for has
- 112 "Dere —" (Streeter novel)
- 113 Holy in manner

- 116 Former Russian ruler
- 117 Singer James
- 118 Broadway light
- 121 "Not — rule"
- 122 Ness was one
- 123 Tied up
- 124 Las Vegas competitor
- 125 Killed
- 127 Proper
- 128 "— Aviv"
- 130 Wild silkworm
- 131 Luzon people



PARTHENON



Pizzeria Restaurant

835 Suffield St. (Rte. 75), Agawam

**Spend \$25 Or
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Receive \$10
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Good Towards Your
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Open Daily 11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

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Buy 2 Grinders, Get 1 FREE
— Higher Price Prevails —

(Not In Conjunction With Any Other Coupons)
Must Present Coupon — Expires 1/31/99



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Call
786-7941**

Popular Cabarets Continue At The Red Door Theatre

An intimate setting of candlelit tables, quiet conversation, home-brought finger foods, and music from popular Broadway shows is being offered at The Red Door Theatre.

Following the successful Christmas cabaret "Twas The Nite," STAGE directors Margie Secora and Lyle Pearsons have added two more of these cabaret entertainments to their busy theatre's schedule.

"Next Stop, New York!" is a collection of Broadway tunes that have been performed by young people on Broadway. Some of our area's brightest talents will perform these selections on Friday and Saturday, January 29th and 30th, at 7:30 p.m., and on Saturday and Sunday, January 30th and 31st, at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for seniors and children under 12. Reservations are recommended and may be made by calling (413) 789-2026.

"One Enchanted Evening" is a Valentine's cabaret performed by Margie and Lyle. This well-known singing duo will bring their special brand of entertainment to their fourth annual Valentine's cabaret with romantic songs, comedy, and a one-act play for three performances only: February 12th, 13th, and 14th at 7:30 p.m.

Again, couples and groups are seated at candlelit tables, this time with a silk rose, a chocolate heart, and a bottle of non-alcoholic champagne.

Accompanied by Marcy Secora on piano, Margie and Lyle sing up a storm of old favorites and new releases that include show tunes, country, pop, and even a little rock-and-roll. (Do I hear Elvis in the house?) Audience members may bring their own basket of goodies to either cabaret, or partake of the selection from the refreshment bar.

Tickets for "One Enchanted Evening" are \$25 per couple, and reservations may be made by calling (413) 789-2026.

The Red Door Theatre is located at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA (atop the hill beside the Valley Community Church).

"Wintertime" Stories For Youngsters At Ag. Public Library

Agawam and Feeding Hills residents ages four and up are invited to the Agawam Public Library on Wednesday, January 27th, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. to hear New England storyteller Diane Edgecomb's "Once Upon A Wintertime" stories.

Join us for a heartwarming evening of nature and family tales spun by a gifted actress who is also an award-winning storyteller. This is the fourth program in a series funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council through our local Agawam Cultural Council.

PLEASE CALL 789-1550, OR VISIT THE LIBRARY TO REGISTER.

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CAST MEMBERS OF "Next Stop, New York!" rehearse one of the many Broadway show tunes they will be performing on January 29th, 30th, and 31st at The Red Door Theatre, located at 152 South Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. For further information and/or ticket reservations for this cabaret-style production, please call (413) 789-2026.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon ... AAN!!!

The Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee

Proudly Presents Our

5TH ANNUAL DINNER DANCE



Chez Josef

Shoemaker Lane, Agawam, MA

Saturday, February 27th

6 PM - 1 AM

This year's "Inspiration for a Cure Award" recipient is

Dr. George Howard
of Baystate Medical Center

The proceeds from this event will benefit the very first
CAMP FOR KIDS WITH EPILEPSY
in Massachusetts!
Help us to help others understand!

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE BY CALLING:

Vincent & Carol Pietroniro 786-9452
Wayne & Sue Hearn 789-1529
Diane Penna 786-9284
Rick & Kim Martel 786-1169
Donna Kerley 592-5305

**D.J. Ross
MacDonald**

**Exclusive
Silent Auction**

Tickets: \$25 per person



Education

Outstanding Pottery Students For Month Of January At AHS

Amie Panek, Jake Hayslett, Joanna Surowiec, and Jessica Marie Coelho are four outstanding pottery students who have received recognition from Mrs. Geraldine Ann Schilling-Nordal as potters for the month of January.

Pottery at the high school is a very popular subject, with 163 students taking the classes offered this semester. The course has been in existence for over 16 years, with many students electing to take it more than once during their high school experience.

In the introductory course in ceramics, students learn the basic methods of hand-built construction (pinch, coil, ball, and slab techniques) as well as the firing and glazing processes. The course continues with an introduction to the potter's wheel and an opportunity to further develop individual skills in modeling and decoration. Independent projects are encouraged along with individual style.

Amie Panek is 17 and a junior. She lives with her parents, Richard and Cheryl Panek, a sister, Jennifer, 14, and a cocker spaniel named Harley. She helps her mother daily to run a ceramic studio in the basement of their Southwick Street home by loading and unloading the kiln. She also knows how to pour and pull molds.

Amie has been painting ceramics since the age of five and often teaches her mother's classes by herself when her mother is busy. She specializes in designing and cutting out ceramic pumpkins to sell, and someday hopes to get a certificate in ceramics so she can take over her mother's business.

Jake Hayslett lives in Agawam with his grandmother. He has an 11 year-old brother and a 13 year-old sister. Another member of the household is a black lab.

Jake's favorite subject in school is pottery, but music is his first love. He describes himself as a struggling musician.

Joanna Surowiec, a sophomore, enjoys excitement. Her hobbies include ballet, lacrosse, in-line skating, dancing, and journalism. Her byline can often be seen in the UNlisted section of the Springfield Union News.

She has a younger brother, Paul, who's also at the high school. She states her mother was very studious when in school, and she is trying to follow in her footsteps. Joanna wants to do everything possible in life, such as bungee-jumping, skydiving, and para-sailing.

Jessica Marie Coelho, a 15 year-old sophomore from Feeding Hills, enjoys being creative and hopes to pursue a career as a wildlife photographer, architect, or Egyptian historian. At present, her hobbies include reading, cooking, photography, painting, music, using a computer, and viewing movies. She cares for her seven year-old cat, Tigger.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Coelho, she said her talent comes from her mother's side of the family. She has two brothers, Christopher, 20, and Justin, 13, and a sister, Elizabeth, 16, who is a junior at the high school.

Open Registration On Feb. 1st At Children's Center Preschool

Open registration for The Children's Center Preschool is slated for Monday, February 1st, at 7:00 p.m.

The Children's Center has proudly served the children of Agawam and surrounding communities for 25 years. We will be accepting children in our two-day program if the child is three years-old by October 1, 1999. Our three-day program is geared towards children entering kindergarten in the year 2000.

We currently have a few openings in our three-day p.m. class for the remainder of this school year. If you would like your child to have a preschool experience before entering kindergarten in the fall, please give us a call.

Our program is designed to meet the individual needs of each child in a positive and stimulating environment. We strive to develop social skills, tolerance, responsibility, and respect of others.

We are located at 459 Mill Street, in the red church across from Agawam High School. If you have any questions, contact Robin Jensen at 789-2261.



THE FOLLOWING AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS have been named outstanding pottery students for the month of January (from left to right): Jessica Marie Coelho, Jake Hayslett, Joanna Surowiec, and Amie Panek. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Agawam Counseling Ctr. Has Workshop On Eating Disorders

The Agawam Jr. High has arranged for the Agawam Counseling Center to provide an informational workshop to discuss the concerns of body image, anorexia, and bulimia.

This presentation will take place on Tuesday, January 26th from 2:20-3:15 p.m. All students are welcome. If parents have any questions, please call Wendy Bradley-Terwilliger at 821-0542.

The Agawam Counseling Center will also be running a grief group for students who have experienced any losses due to death. If you would like your child to participate in either program, please contact Wendy Bradley-Terwilliger at the number above.

John Manning Named To Dean's List At Hamilton College

John Manning, the son of John and Helen Manning of Oak Lane in Feeding Hills, has been named to the Dean's List at Hamilton College for the 1998 fall semester.

A student is placed on the Dean's List for earning an average of 90 or above during the term.

A senior majoring in government at Hamilton, Manning is a graduate of Agawam High School.

Hamilton College is a highly selective residential college offering a rigorous liberal arts curriculum. Students are challenged to think, write and speak critically, creatively and analytically so that upon graduation they may distinguish themselves in both their professions and their communities.

Learn a Living!



...at Holyoke Community College's convenient Southwick campus, located at Southwick-Tolland Regional High School on Route 57 in Southwick. Evening classes offered:

- Principles of Accounting
- Computer Applications
- Business Law
- Principles of Advertising

Plus:

- An AMA Communications Skills class
- Non-credit classes in personal computers and Microsoft Office

Spring classes start the week of January 25. Tuition is only \$73 per credit!

Call 552-2950 for more information or to register.



Continuing Education

HOLYOKE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, January 25th: Cheese-topped pizza wedge, tossed garden salad with Italian dressing, chilled fruit cup, milk.

Tuesday, January 26th: Shepherd's pie, wheat bread & butter, orange blossom cake with icing, milk.

Wednesday, January 27th: Cheeseburg in roll, steamed rice, seasoned carrots, orange Jello with topping or fruit cup, milk.

Thursday, January 28th: School-made meatballs with tomato sauce, buttered macaroni, seasoned niblet corn, bread & butter, fruit cup or chocolate cake with vanilla icing, milk.

Friday, January 29th: Chicken with rice soup, sliced deli turkey sandwich in roll, oven potato wedges, rosy applesauce, ice cream cup, milk.

(Tickets may be purchased on Monday in the elementary schools for the week. Meal price is \$1.10 daily. If paying by check, make check out to "Agawam School Lunch.")

Area Students Named To Dean's List At Quinnipiac

The following local residents were named to the Quinnipiac College dean's list for the fall 1998 semester:

From Agawam: Daniel Cizek, Katie LaBreck.
From Feeding Hills: Melissa LaFlamme, Julie LaFlamme, Rebecca Wing.

Quinnipiac College is a private, coeducational, non-sectarian institution located 90 minutes north of New York City and two hours from Boston. The college has 250 full-time faculty and enrolls nearly 4,000 full-time undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students in more than 48 programs of study in Business, Health Sciences, Law, Liberal Arts, Education, and Communications.

Quinnipiac consistently ranks among the top northern regional universities in *US News and World Report's America's Best Colleges*.

ADVERTISER NEWS

Polish American Club of Agawam

139 Southwick Street
Feeding Hills

(413) 786-0973

BINGO

EVERY TUESDAY 6:45 P.M.
DOORS OPEN 4:30 P.M.

TWO WINNER TAKE ALL'S



ALL PAPER GAMES

NON SMOKING SECTION

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From AHS Guidance Department...

Let's Give Our Children "Roots" & "Wings"

by Judy Cohen
Agawam High School Guidance Counselor

So many times we hear how important it is to give your children roots and wings. Yet, what exactly does the expression mean? And when we understand the true meaning, how can we practice it?

When your children are born, their slates are clean. Yes, they may have certain genetic traits, but for the most part, they are lumps of clay waiting to be molded. Through parenting, through our discussions, suggestions, and actions, our children grow, adapt to their surroundings, and develop personalities.

Indeed, we try to give them roots; we try to enable them to understand appropriate ways to believe; we instill our ethics. We give them a basic understanding of who we are and who they are. By doing this, we are giving them a firm foundation; we are giving them roots.

But, here's the problem. Now that they have the roots, now that they are maturing, when do we step back and give them wings? When do we allow them to take flight, to deal with their surroundings, to make decisions and to just learn to be without our constant assistance?

Let's take a look at Jenny. Mom has always made all of Jenny's decisions. Jenny has not really been given choices and asked to choose between two things; instead, she has been given the one thing. Now it's time for colleges ... and big decision-making time.

All of a sudden, Jenny's grades begin to plummet. Other kids are bringing me their applications. Jenny has not brought me one. I call her in.

She tells me that she thinks she wants to take a year off; she doesn't want to go to college right away. Of course, I look at her grades and subsequent warnings and tell her that at this rate, she won't have to worry about college.

Then, the light bulb goes on and I think, that's it, she doesn't want to worry about college: she

doesn't want to have to make a decision. In fact, she doesn't know how to make a decision, since she hasn't been allowed to gain expertise in that area.

Perhaps, I quietly suggest, that's why her grades have plummeted. Perhaps, with low grades, she will not have to make the decision about leaving home and going to college. After all, leaving home and having to make decisions must really be scary thoughts for Jen.

I had a long talk with Mom. Not surprisingly, Mom thought she was doing the right thing for Jen. By making all the decisions, Mom really believed that life would be easier for Jen and that Jen would not be apt to make many mistakes.

But children need to be given wings; they need to start making decisions at an early age. For instance, when they go into a market, you can ask them if they want the Oreos or the chocolate chips. You might ask if they want to invite Carol or Sally, but not both, over to the house after school.

By starting out with making small decisions, children will become more skillful in making larger decisions. They will be given the space to grow, to take flight.

Oh, but then what about the mistakes? They need to make the mistakes. Only through making mistakes will they learn.

When your children are born, nurture them, give them roots, make their decisions, but as they start to venture forth to school, as they start to really comprehend the world around them, do include in decision making.

Do give them permission to grow wings and take flight. If the roots are firm, they will not fly away forever; they will use their wings to explore, but they will continue to revisit their roots, too.

Yes, roots and wings, both are essential in helping children develop to their fullest.

For all the school-related news, you turn our pages each and every week ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

Your First Choice

For College Courses at
Agawam High School

Taking courses at Springfield Technical Community College is not limited to the Armory Square campus. Several of STCC's most popular courses will be offered on Tuesday evenings for your convenience at Agawam High School.

Classes

Microcomputer Applications for Windows 1	(3 credits)
Visual Basic 1	(4 credits)
Principles of Management	(3 credits)
English Composition 1	(3 credits)
Elementary Spanish 2	(3 credits)
Introduction to Sociology	(3 credits)
Classes are held from 6:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. (3 credits) or 6:00 to 9:45 p.m. (4 credits.)	

Semester Schedule

Classes begin on Tuesday, January 26, and end on May 11.

For further information, please call STCC Continuing Education at 781-1315.

Registration

You may register at Agawam High School from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. only on Tuesday, January 26, pending seat availability.

You may register now at the main campus, in person, by phone, or by fax; call 781-1315. Hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to noon. We're closed on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Visa, MasterCard, and Discover are accepted.

Main Campus

Over 140 different credit courses are offered in STCC's Evening and Weekend College Program, including a 4:00 p.m. session and Saturday morning classes. Classes lead to a wide variety of associate degree and certificate programs. Several classes are offered over the Internet for students with Internet access. For information see www.stcc.mass.edu/dce



**SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Highlights From The Junior High PTO's Late Nov. Meeting

The Agawam Junior High School PTO held its third meeting on Monday, November 30th. Past meeting minutes, treasurer's report, and a report from this year's fundraiser chairperson and School Council representative were presented.

Four requests were discussed, voted on, and all approved.

* The Math Department requested funds for gumdrops and toothpicks that will be used to build three-dimensional figures.

* The Non-Users Club Advisors requested funds to help fund club activities for the rest of the school year.

* Mr. Costanzi requested funds to purchase donuts and pastries for the "Staff Holiday Breakfast" held before the Christmas break.

* Ms. Mary White requested funds to purchase t-shirts for the stage crew.

Please continue to support the Jr. High School by patronizing V&F Auto Service on Springfield Street. They will donate two percent of the parts and labor to the school for the work done on your car.

Also, the Big Y Express Points are still available, so continue to shop at any Big Y. Be sure to tell both businesses you want the Jr. High School to get the credit. Thank you for your support.

Phillip J. LeClair, Jr. Earns Degree From Western New England

Phillip J. LeClair, Jr. of Agawam received a Bachelor of Science in Law Enforcement degree from Western New England College on October 15, 1998.

He is the son of Phillip J. LeClair, Sr. of Dalton, Mass., and Vivian LeClair of Pittsfield, Mass.

Western New England College, founded in 1919, is a private, nonsectarian, coeducational institution located on an attractive 185-acre suburban campus in Springfield.

The College serves 4,600 students on its Springfield main campus, at over 20 sites throughout the Commonwealth, and at its downtown Springfield campus. Undergraduate and graduate programs are offered through the College's School of Arts & Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Law.

Agawam And Feeding Hills Students Attain Dean's List At HCC

The Holyoke Community College Vice President for Academic Affairs, David Entin, has named the following Agawam-area students to the Dean's List for the 1998 fall semester.

Full-time and part-time students named to the Dean's List have achieved at least a 3.2 grade point average.

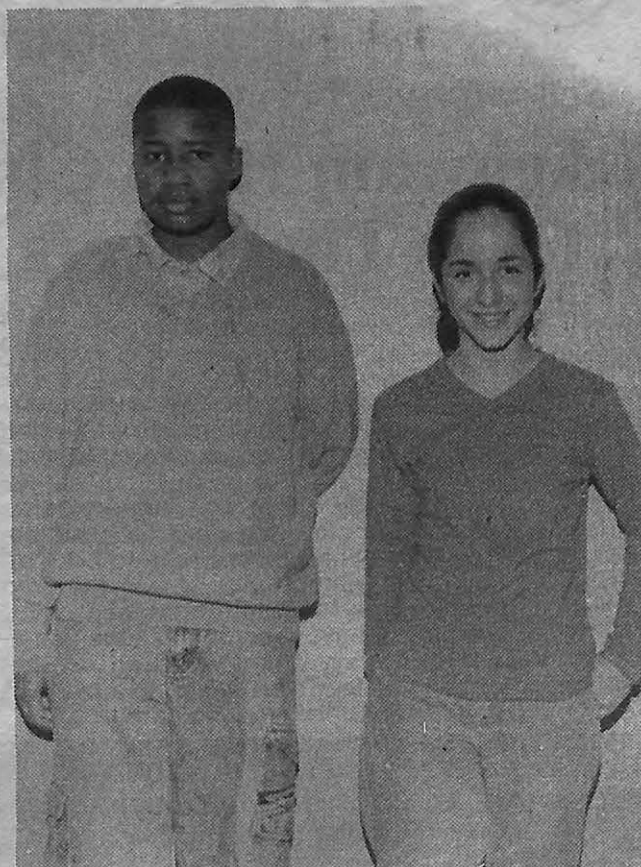
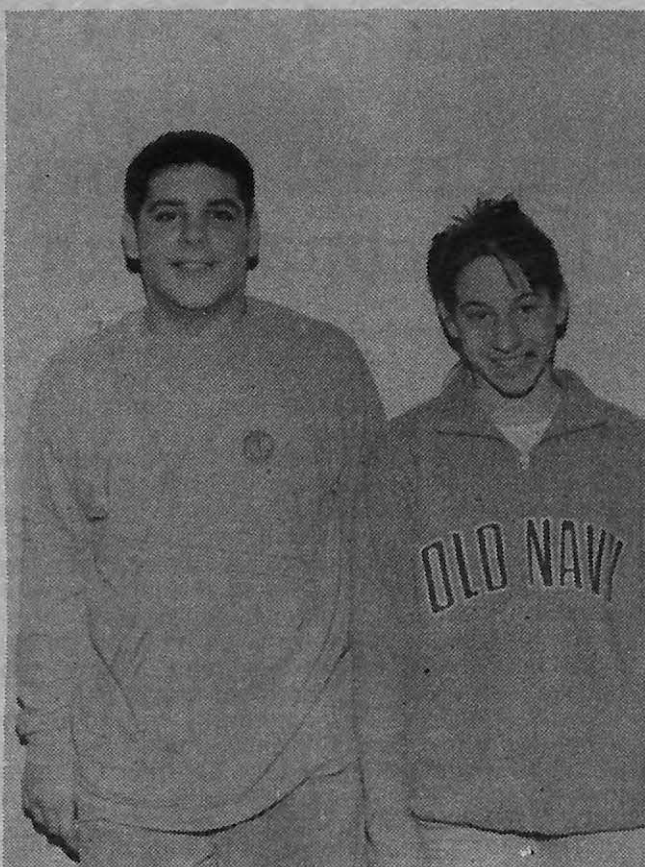
Students from Agawam: Steven G. Wegrzyn, Derek M. Jenks, Maria Lafrance, Lisa A. Goodman, Jeffery T. Daigneau, Susan M. Blakeslee, Shauna C. Naciewicz, Sandra A. Sherry, Jennifer Lynn Kasperowski, Lindelee A. Davis, Jessica Faye Garrett.

Students from Feeding Hills: Janine L. Iacolo, Nicole Ann Bossig, Jessica Ann Hansen, Kimberly Laflamme, Pamela M. Danie, Dana L. Strader, Sarah F. Platanitis, Samantha M. Collette, Mara L. Cavanaugh, Daniel Justin Loubier, Cara-Ann Fattini, Philip M. Silva, Ronald J. Ardolino.

* * *

Classified ads in the Advertiser News cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone!!! Please mail your ad with payment to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030, or stop by our office at 14 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills.

Noted "Phys. Ed." Students At Jr. High...



THE FOLLOWING AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH PUPILS have been named as the latest "Physical Education Students Of The Month": eighth-graders Vincent Moretti and Jessica Hudson (in left photo), and seventh-graders Jawan Wright and Pavlina Moysis (in right photo). Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Local Girl Scouts To Form New First Grade Brownie Troop

The Pioneer Valley Girl Scouts will be forming a new first grade Brownie troop. This troop will meet at Heritage Hall on a Thursday evening.

If anyone is interested in joining, please contact Lesley Young at 786-3785. Places will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Junior High PTO To Meet On Jan. 25th

The Agawam Junior High School PTO will hold its next meeting on Monday, January 25th at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.

We will be forming committees to plan the staff celebration breakfast in May and the eighth-grade celebration in June.

All interested parents and teachers are invited to attend. Subsequent meetings will be held on the last Monday of the month.

— Best local news with us, every week ... AAN!!! —

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Sports

Schoolboy Hockey...

Agawam High Chalks Up 5-2 Victory Over The Pacers Of Chicopee High

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Last week, after a 3-2 win over winless Greenfield High, Agawam hockey Coach Fran Pycko was not a happy camper. It was, according to him, an ugly victory.

Not so last Saturday afternoon, January 16th, after he watched his club ring up a 5-2 triumph over Chicopee High. Their record rose to 5-4-1 at presstime and, more importantly, 4-1 in the Fay Division, good enough for the outright lead.

"When we play lousy, everyone on the team tends to play that way. When we're all on the same page, everyone feeds off everyone else. You saw the results this afternoon," he noted.



VARSITY COACH Fran Pycko (right) and John Cirelli — the "brain trust" behind AHS hockey. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

In-Your-Face Hockey

Agawam started out as it usually does, with aggressive, in-your-face hockey. Perhaps they skated with so much gusto because junior center Jason Malanson was not in the lineup. But the Brownies' pressure backfired with 1:25 gone as the Pacers scored on a slapshot from the left point, which beat goalie Mike Schmidt to the short side.

Chicopee got called for a boarding penalty after that and Agawam had a power play. The Pacers killed the penalty and seemed to be carrying the action to the Brownies. Agawam solved that problem at the 8:02 mark. Tony Kosinski centered a pass on the left wing to Dave Gusek. Gusek let it fly and tied it up at 1-1.

Twenty seconds later, Chicopee was right back in the Brownies' zone. The result, a frozen rope of a slapshot off the stick of Adam Malek, which gave the Pacers a 2-1 lead.

To that point, Chicopee had been skating with the Brownies and it was getting some quality goaltending from Kelli Cloutier. She robbed both Brian Pagella and Tony LeClaire.

However, with 1:56 left in the first period, Agawam tied it up at 2-2 on a 30-foot slapshot from the right wing by Gusek. It was his second goal of the game and 10th of the year. Tony Kosinski got the assist. It stood at 2-2 after the first period. Agawam had seven shots on net. Chicopee checked in with eight.

The Pacers came out in the second period and immediately stormed the Brownie goal. Only good defensive efforts by the Sprague boys, Adam and Josh, Andy Radwanski, and some good work in net by Mike Schmidt prevented a Chicopee score.

At the 11:11 mark, both clubs were skating hard and playing tough, clean hockey. The Agawam defense, led by Josh Sprague and Pagella, was picking up the shooters early and riding them out of the play. Chicopee's Ryan Gagne had a semi-breakaway on the left wing at 10:20. But Brian Gilhooley teamed up with Sprague in a sandwich job that made the Pacers' forward cough up the puck.

A penalty on Gilhooley at the 5:50 mark saw the Sprague brothers, along with Radwanski and Pagella, take the ice. They effectively killed the penalty. Agawam was at full strength when Radwanski drove the puck home on assists from Dennis Walters and Adam Sprague with 3:35 left. The second half ended 3-2, Brownies. They had five shots on goal. Chicopee had six.

Another Power Play

Agawam had another power play to start the final 15 minutes. It was their third of the game and like the other two, they failed to cash in. However, they were still playing inspired hockey with Adam Sprague digging in the corners while his brother,

Josh, and Pagella were forechecking with authority.

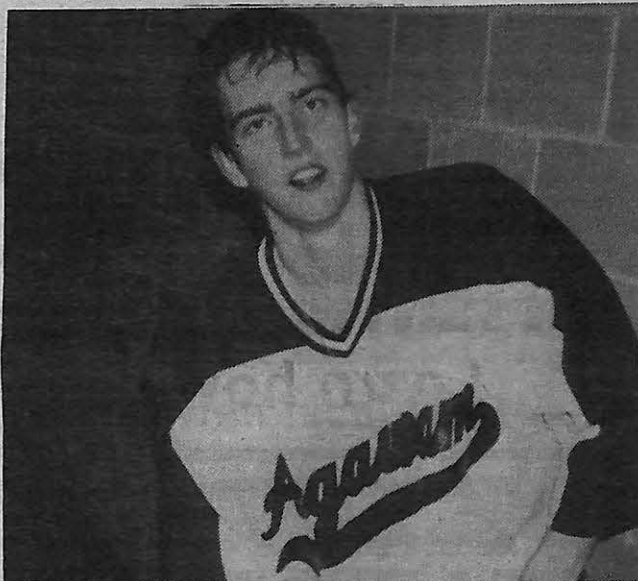
It was only a matter of time before something in the Pacers' defense snapped. Schmidt started things out with 9:15 left. The senior goalie was facing a swarm of Pacers. He made a save and appeared to be off balance. Chicopee's leading scorer, Mike Woishnis, hooked the rebound and launched from just outside the left crease.

Schmidt, who would have 17 saves in the game, made his biggest one at that point, a glove job that took much of the starch out of the Pacers.

While they were momentarily stunned by Schmidt's effort, LeClaire and Gusek skated the puck up ice and got behind the defense. LeClaire took Kosinski's pass and wristed it home to put the Brownies up, 4-2 for his 17th of the campaign.

"That was a great effort at both ends of the rink. It turned into a two-goal swing," Pycko grinned.

Agawam would score again with 7:25 left. Freshman Dennis Walters got it on assists by Radwanski and Josh Sprague. Agawam would have five shots for a game total of 17. Chicopee took only three in the third and totaled 17 as well. The Pacers fell to 2-6-1 and 2-2 in the Fay Division.



BRIAN GILHOOLEY, an outstanding defenseman for the Brownies. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

In High School Wrestling...

Brownies Take On Toothless Beavers, 81-0

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High wrestling team traveled across the river to Putnam Vocational of Springfield Saturday afternoon, January 16th, for a meet against the Beavers. It was, in essence, no contest as the defending Western Mass. champs skunked the hosts, 81-0.

Agawam started out on the plus side with Putnam forfeits in the 103 and 112 weight divisions. Their first battle came in the 119's. **Corey Federico**, making his first start, fared well. The sophomore won with 38 seconds left in the second period on a pin. Federico was in control the whole way. His constant riding and quickness had him up 8-2 when he ended things.

Putnam forfeited the 125's and 130's.

Agawam was up in the 135's in the form of **Chris Wayte**. The tough senior, as it turned out, had a slightly frustrating match with Putnam's Steve Ramos, who, despite repeated efforts at a pinfall by Wayte, just refused to be beaten like that. Finally, with 48 seconds left in the third period and leading 8-0, Wayte got his hard-fought pin.

A Scare In The 140's

The Brownies' **Kevin Gaffney** got a scare in the 140's. He was down 9-5 in the second period and seemed on his way to being pinned, but the buzzer saved him. He was down 9-8 with 20 seconds left in the third period and it looked like only a pin could save the day for the sophomore. A takedown got him two with six seconds left. A Putnam escape picked up one and it ended 10-all in regulation. Gaffney won with a two-point takedown, and a 12-10 margin seconds into the overtime period.

Senior **Mark Engleman** was up in the 145's. The senior co-captain wasted no time. Showing his All-Western Mass. form, he pinned his opponent with 12 seconds left in the first period.

The next three Brownies continued to demonstrate just how overpowering Agawam wrestling can be. Senior All-Western Mass. 145-pound champ **Adam Blair** pinned his man with 47 seconds gone in the first period.

Senior **Tom Shibley** got his pin with 26 seconds left in the first period in the 160's.

SEE WRESTLING - Page 35



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*Boys' Basketball...***Hapless Brownies
Fall To Westfield's
Bombers, 55-28****by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor**

If you happened to be up at Kibbe Gym Tuesday evening at Agawam High School for the boys' basketball game against Westfield High, you got two games for the price of one.

The Brownies are struggling. They don't have the roster that was on the books when the season started. Coach Gary Grumoli has had to mix and match. They lost to the Bombers, 55-28. But for a half, they were in it.

Westfield is tall. If they were food, they would be string beans. They are also quick. Agawam was without its major weapons other than senior co-captain Mark Pedraza. He was the only one who kept Agawam in the game in the first half (15 points, 5-11 fgs, 2-3's, 3-3 fts).

The Bombers came in with a 6-3 record in the Valley Wheel. Agawam was 2-6 and 0-0. The battle was fairly even in the first half, before things got out of hand in the second 16 minutes.

Aggressive Mode

As usual, both teams came out in an aggressive mode. The Brownies pressed. So did the Bombers. Pedraza, stepping up because co-captain Dave Strole was still out (a bad ankle), was dominant. Pedraza drove the lane, hit a trey, and had seven points and two boards with only four minutes gone.

The Brownies were up 11-9 at the 10:44 mark. Westfield tied it at 11, then Agawam went up 16-13 at 9:33. They went into a 2-3 zone. Pedraza had nine points at that point. He hit a three at 6:15 to give Agawam a 19-14 lead. A deuce game him 15 with 4:50 left. Then the Bombers shut him down with a zone match-up and a double team. They weren't going to let him score anymore. "I knew what they were trying to do. Then I started to look for the open man," Pedraza said.

Westfield played great defense to the end of the half. At the buzzer, they led 24-23.

The second 16 minutes was a nightmare for the Brownies. They hit only two from the field and 1-2 from the line, a total of five points. Westfield went 13-21 and 3-6. Agawam had nine turnovers and the Bombers got six points off of them.

"We just ran out of gas," Grumoli said.

BROWNIE NOTES: The junior varsity lost to the Westfield JV's, 56-38. Mike Thomas had 15 points to lead all AHS scorers.

AGAWAM INDIVIDUAL STATS: Pedraza - 17 points (6-18 fgs, plus 2-3's, 3-3 fts, 5 rebounds, 1 off); Conte - 4 points (2-6 fgs, 2 rebs); Bodurtha - 2 points (1-2 fgs, 1 rebound); Federico - 2 points (1-3 fgs, 2 rebounds); Mercadante - 2 points (1-2 fgs, 1 rebound); Ellsworth - 1 point (1-2 ft).

WRESTLING - from Page 34...

The 170's saw senior **John Weinle** triumph with a pin at the 39-second mark of the first period. Weinle was going for a pin from the start. He had a 4-0 lead on two takedowns before the pinfall.

Paul Johnson also got a win in the 189's. The Brownie junior got in trouble early and had to crawl out of bounds to get his opponent off his back. Things were all tied at 7-7 after the first period.

Both wrestlers were standing up to start the second two minutes. Then, Johnson shot, took the Brave down, and flipped him onto his back, pinning him with 39 seconds left in the period.

Justin Petrangelo won his 215-pound match, pinning his man with 27 seconds gone in the first. Putnam forfeited in the heavyweights.

"Putnam has been struggling recently. Once they were an outstanding program," Agawam Coach Phil Tomkiel noted.

Three Brownies, because of their victories in the meet, won their varsity letters - Corey Federico, Tom Shibley, and Paul Johnson.

The junior varsity had little trouble. Sophomore **Dave Berube**, junior **Kevin Grealis**, and senior **Pat Renna** all won their matches on pins.

*Please remember
our deadline is every
Tuesday at noon. We
open weekdays at
6:30 a.m. Thanks.*

*In Schoolgirl Basketball Action...***AHS Maintains Undefeated Streak
With 60-28 Victory Over Sci-Tech****by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor**

The Agawam High girls' basketball team won in a walkover on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, whipping up on Sci-Tech of Springfield, 60-28. The Brownies improved to 10-0 and 3-0 in the Valley Wheel. They qualified for the Western Mass. Tournament (13 straight times now) and have beaten all the top teams in Division I (except Cathedral) at presstime.

In the Sci-Tech game, they were led once again by Barbara Maloni's 23 points. She got most of them on drives down the lane. Also helping out - Pia Bertone Gross (10 points, six rebounds) and Melissa Cote (four points, four rebounds). All three of them, besides shining on the offensive

end, were solid on defense. They combined to shut down Tech's leading scorer, Daisha Parks (15 ppg), holding her to just four points.

The Brownies led 32-15 at the half. The second 18 minutes saw Coach Lou Conte go to his bench, where there are kids like sophomore Liz Stieg (six points), sophomore Laura Bucalo (four points), sophomore Jill Gendron (four points), junior Jen Lyman, and others who are being groomed to take over when the big three, Maloni, Bertone-Gross, and Cote, graduate.

"We have the shooters and offensive power now. But we have to look down the road, too," Conte has said more than once.

When it comes to covering local high school athletics, no one does it like our Sports Editor, Dave Rollins. He is just one more reason why you turn our pages every week ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

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Profile...

Brenna McGinn Is Definitely In The "Swim" Of Things For The Brownies

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Brenna McGinn is one of the veterans on the Agawam High girls' swimming team. Recently, the senior took some time out to talk about her time at AHS.

Brenna is 17 years-old. She'll turn 18 on June 22nd. She has spent all four years of her secondary education at Agawam High School.

Currently, her course load includes advanced placement biology, integrated math, journalism 2, and the Yearbook staff, where she is the literary editor and also the editor-in-chief.

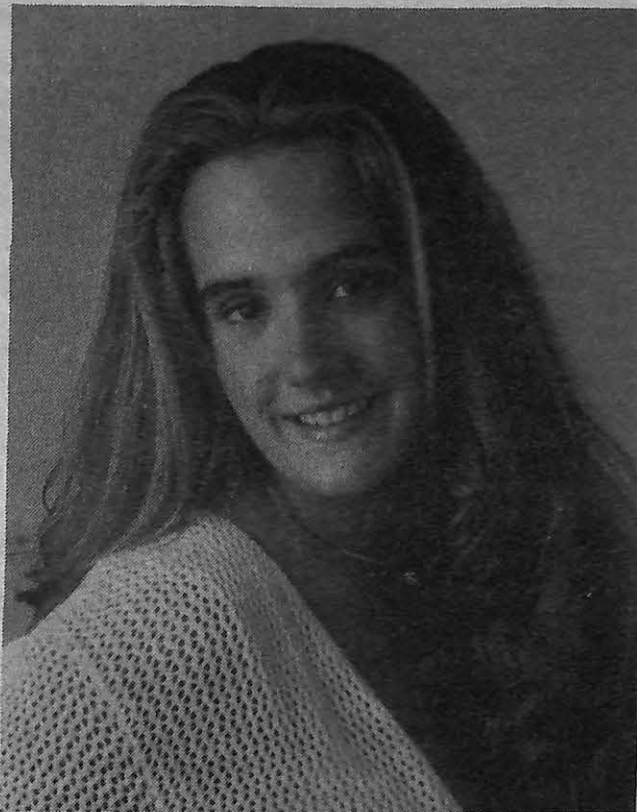
Her favorite courses are the Yearbook and modern literature. Brenna is vice-president of the National Honor Society. Her GPA is 91.6, which ranks her 35th in a senior class of 261. Her top teacher is Margo Poulin (English and modern literature).

At the moment, her plans for college are not quite formulated. But Boston University is her top choice. Brenna would like to major in education wherever she ends up.

She also plays lacrosse in addition to swimming. But swimming is her favorite sport. She is a standout in all the relays, plus the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle and the backstroke.

Her most memorable sports moment came in 1997 when her relay team finished 10th in the Western Mass. Tournament. Also memorable was her qualification this year for the Western Mass. Tournament to be held next month. She accomplished this on January 5th during a home meet versus Amherst. "I did it in the 100 free. I was really proud of that," she smiled.

Her take on the current season goes like this: "We're 1-2 right now. Our losses came to a couple of tough teams; Minnechaug and Amherst. The win over Cathedral was a boost for us. We con-



BRENNA MCGINN

tinue to improve our times, which is important. We'll show everyone in the 'B' Division what we can do before the season is over."

Brenna's favorite food is scallops, which seems right for a person who spends a lot of time in the water.

Green is her color of choice.

She'd like to own a Volkswagen Jetta. "At one time, my mom drove a yellow beetle, so that's why I like Volkswagens," she admitted.

Olympic gold medalist Tom Dolan (500 free, 400 individual medley) is her favorite athlete. "He has asthma. So did I. It's tough competing with something like that," she said.

Her favorite places to hang out are wherever her friends might be.

She likes to shop at the Holyoke Mall. Her favorite shops are American Eagle and the Express. It's mostly casual attire for her - jeans, sweaters, corduroys, and khakis.

She prefers alternative music. Her best band is Aerosmith, featuring Mick Jagger wanna-be, Steven Tyler. "I went to see them at the Meadows last October," she said.

"Home Improvement" and "Friends" are tops on the tube for her. "Ace Ventura, Pet Detective" is her favorite flick.

Her mom's name is Cindy. Brenna is an only child. She looks up to her mom. "She is a very tough lady who has been through a lot. My mom has my total respect," she said.

She would like to be remembered as an athlete/citizen of AHS. "As a good student and a good athlete, as a person who knew when to have fun and when to buckle down and get serious."

Kim Scofield is her coach. She had this to say about Brenna: "She is a very serious competitor. Brenna inspires the other kids on the team. She's a positive force for us."

Profile...

Charlie Roberts — One Of The Mainstays Of AHS Swimming

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

For four years, Charlie Roberts has been one of the mainstays of Agawam High boys' swimming. Recently, he talked to us about his time at AHS.

Charlie is 18 years-old. His birthday was December 15th. He is 5'11" tall and weighs 165 pounds. He has spent four years at the High School. His current curriculum includes algebra II, psychology, Spanish 4, English 12, and sociology. He is president of the Peers Club, which helps underclassmen through some of the tougher courses at the school.

His top courses are psychology and Spanish 4. "My mom is also fluent in that language, so we speak in Spanish now and then," he said.

Linda Sasso (Spanish) is his favorite teacher.

Charlie's two top college choices are Wheaton (in Norton, MA) and Boston University. "In the end, it will be one of those," he said.

His main sport is swimming. He is accomplished in all the relays plus the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle and the 100-yard backstroke. And at one time he was also a member of the school's bowling team. (That's right, they did have one.) "It was 10-pin. I love to bowl and carry a 148 average. I've shot into the 200's more than once. They cancelled the program because no schools in the area had bowling. So, we had no one to compete against," he said.

Charlie's most memorable sports moments, despite the fact that he has qualified for the Western Mass. tournament all four years at the school, has to do with the team. "We all support each other. Seeing the times come down in almost every meet makes me proud of everyone on both the boys' and girls' team. No one quits here. That's special and memorable to me."

Charlie is in his second year as a co-captain and he has this view of the current season. "We focus on personal bests whenever we can. Swimming may seem to be an individual sport, but the team comes first. And the more you realize you are part of a team and they support you, the better you feel and the better you do."

Pizza, especially pepperoni, is his favorite food. "I can't say no to pizza at any time," he smiled.

Purple is his favorite color.

His choice in wheels is a Volkswagen Jetta.

Swimming champion Mark Spitz is his top athlete.

Charlie likes to hang out in his free time up at a cafe called Javanet in Northampton.

He buys his clothes at Dorsett Men's Wear in Northampton. "I'll wear almost anything I can afford. It all depends on how I feel that day."

He likes Top 40 music, including Madonna, Janet Jackson, and Elton John.

Though he doesn't watch TV all that much, when he does, it's the new "Star Trek" and the "X-Files." "Evita" (starring Madonna) and "Farewell to My Concubine" are tops on the big screen for him.

His mom's name is Sheryll. Charlie is an only child.

He looks up to his mom. "She is a dynamic, strong person. She has always been by my side supporting me."

When his days at AHS are done he'd like to be remembered this way: "As a person who always stood up for what I believed in. And as a person who wanted respect and respected others."

"Charlie is a leader and a very positive person who works hard, deserves to be captain, and is an example to others," Coach Kim Scofield said.

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Ice Fishing Tips...

Near the top of the checklist is a freshly sharpened auger or chisel. A few minutes of skilled sharpening can be the difference between an easy hole and a strenuous workout.

If you are using a power auger, try it out now. It's far better to discover a gummed-up carburetor now, instead of finding out that the darn thing won't run on your first foray out on the ice.

Fishing structure is not confined to open water fishing. It is not only possible, but quite desirable, to use your boat's fish finder when ice fishing. A few modifications are in order, unless you have one of those battery-operated units that are designed for portability.

Strike Master has come to the aid of the ice fisherman with their Polar Vision hand-held depth finder. It is about the size and shape of a hand-held flashlight, and will give instant readings of

the depth of the water.

Simply pour some water onto the ice surface, place the transducer end on the ice, and push a button. The depth will read instantly.

If your sonar is not portable, fear not. Simply fabricate a mounting surface and haul along a tractor or motorcycle battery. Twelve volts are 12 volts, regardless of whether it says "Marine Battery" or not.

By placing the transducer in a puddle of water on the ice, you should be able to get a good picture of the bottom, and anything swimming between you and it. HINT: Do not leave the transducer sitting in a puddle of water on the surface of the ice too long. If it is really cold, your transducer could become part of the ice itself. I prefer not to risk damage to the transducer by having to chisel it out of a block of ice.

Fish relate to structure in the winter, just as they do in the summer. By being able to quickly find the drop-offs, bars, and humps, you can fish more productively and minimize the number of holes that have to be drilled or chiseled.

LCR units will function quite well, but do not store them outside all winter long. Some manufacturers warn that damage to the liquid

crystal screen can occur when exposed to long-term extreme cold.

WINTER COD TRIP BEING PLANNED

Last year's winter cod trip on the Lady Francis out of Galilee, Rhode Island, was a success, and this year should be no different. Enough of our readers showed up to make the trip a reality. This year, I will be planning another group outing on one of the winter-equipped party boats.

The trip will take place in early March, and plans will be announced in the column shortly.

BOATING U.S.A. AND FUN R.V. SHOW

One of the largest indoor power boat shows in the Northeast opened on Thursday, January 21st, at the Better Living Center at the Big E. The show will run through Sunday, January 24th, and will feature enough fishing rigs to satisfy every angler.

Everything from bass boats to offshore cruisers will be offered at special "Best Deal of the Year" pricing. This year, fun vehicles will be added such as snowmobiles, ATV's, etc.

Even if you are not in the market for a new fishing rig this year, it helps to break up the winter doldrums. Besides, there is nothing like the aroma of brand spanking new fiberglass to really get one's glands going. It never hurts to dream.

Well, What Do You Know????...

St. Mary's & BC Now Tied For 1st In Tri-Parish Bowling

If there is one thing that can be said about the Tri-Parish Bowling League, it is that anything — repeat, anything! — can happen on any given night of competition.

Such was the case on Monday, January 11th, when St. Mary's managed to tie Boston College by the end of the evening's festivities. These two teams each boasted records of 22-10, thereby making things very interesting in round two of the league's weekly rolling action.

However, it must be said that BC really didn't have much to "boast" about on January 11th, considering that they stank the joint out by bowling 4-0 to Fordham (16-16). St. Mary's, meanwhile, clobbered St. Louis (15-17), 4-0, thus enabling the players on St. Mary's team to catch up with BC.

Remember, it was in these very pages last week (a.k.a. *The Agawam Advertiser News*' January 14th edition) that the following was stated (and I quote): "BC (22-6) retained a comfortable, four-game lead over its nearest competitor, St. Mary's (18-10)" at the end of the evening on January 4th. Well, folks, what a difference a week makes, huh? Things are definitely not too "comfortable" at the top of the heap in the Tri-Parish standings, are they?

As for the rest of the matches on January 11th, third-place Holy Cross (20-12) was determined to prove that it's still in the running for the round two crown by downing Catholic University, 3-1. (CU, by the way, is now the new kid at the bottom of the bowling ladder with its 11-21 record.)

Georgetown (17-15) got the better of Notre Dame (13-19) by the score of 3-1, and the slightly improving St. Michael's team (12-20) — which had risen to next-to-last-place after being in the cellar — surprised everyone by taking three games to one from St. Anselm's (13-19).

With his 126 single string and 358 triple string, RON "The Don" MENARD was the men's leading scorer on this particular night. Yet, not to be overshadowed, "Richy" RICH SNYDER was the runner-up, courtesy of his 125 single and 354 triple.

"Jolly" OLLY MULDER (128, 345) was also impressive on January 11th, as were GLENN "Not Sam" ADAMS (120, 338), "Slim" JIM LAMBERT (116, 319), "Jungle" JIM MCCORMICK (103, 299), and "Big Bad" JOHN MLINEK (103, 289).

Once again, "The Mighty" DEB POIRIER (116 single string, 310 triple string) dominated the ladies of the lanes, followed by CORI "Not Lori" NAPOLITAN (114 single, 306 triple), BARBARA "Barb Wire" HOWARD (114, 300), JAN "Not The Man" FULLER (111, 297), "Juicy" LUCY MENARD (107, 297), MARSHA "Not Brady" DOBIE (112, 296), and "Sweet" CAROLINE COELN (105, 289).

**Remember — our
deadline is each
Tuesday at 12:00
noon ... AAN!!!**

Hear Ye!

Hear Ye!

Hear Ye!

Hear Ye!

Read All About It!!!

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**When: Saturday, January 23rd
Sunday, January 24th
1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

Where:

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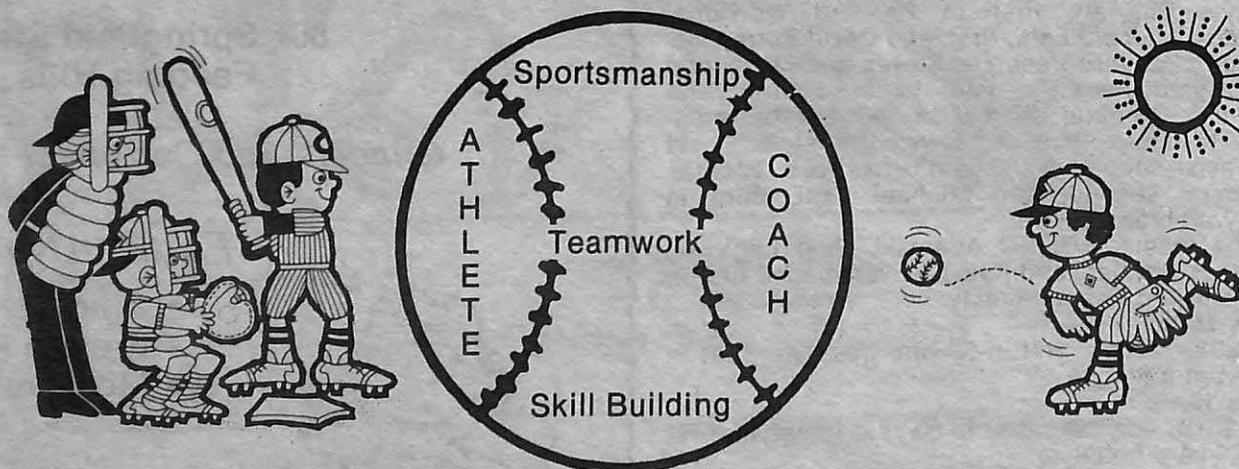
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Agawam Piranhas Defeat Springfield Team By 326-301

The Agawam Piranhas swim team won against the Springfield team by a score of 326-301 on January 9th at the Agawam Junior High School. The results included:

Girls 8 & under:

The team of Sarah Torrey, Krystinia Albano, Taryn Dooley, and Stephanie Scavotta placed second in 100-yard medley relay.

Stephanie Scavotta, third in 25-yard butterfly. Taryn Dooley, second in 50-yard freestyle, first in 25-yard backstroke. Krystinia Albano, third in 25-yard breaststroke.

Boys 8 & under:

The team of Andrew Ardolino, David Dominik, Antonee Mathes, and Patrick Skelley placed first in 100-yard freestyle relay.

David Dominik, third in 25-yard freestyle. Andrew Ardolino, first in 25-yard butterfly. Patrick Skelley, third in 50-yard freestyle. Antonee Mathes, first in 25-yard backstroke. Andrew Ardolino, first in 25-yard breaststroke.

Girls 9-10:

The team of Julie Gorman, Tammy Gorman, Brittany Gutowski, and Johannah Kos placed first in the 200-yard medley relay; and the team of Tara Walker, Caitlin Hurley, Allison Nyman, and Angela Virella placed second.

The team of Julie Gorman, Caitlin Hurley, Brittany Gutowski, and Johannah Kos placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay; and the team of Tammy Gorman, Allison Nyman, Meghan Henry, and Angela Virella placed third.

Meghan Henry, second, and Tara Walker, third in 50-yard freestyle. Johannah Kos, first in 50-yard butterfly. Meghan Henry, third in 100-yard freestyle. Brittany Gutowski, second in 50-yard backstroke. Tammy Gorman, first, and Caitlin Hurley, second in 50-yard breaststroke.

Boys 9-10:

Anthony Ardolino, first in 100-yard individual medley. Adam Deliefde, second in 50-yard backstroke. Anthony Ardolino, first in 50-yard breaststroke.

Girls 11-12:

The team of Jennifer Clark, Jillian Kos, Katie Gorman, and Jessica Lalli placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Jillian Kos, first in 200-yard freestyle. Kaitlin Bond, first in 50-yard freestyle. Katie Gorman, first in 50-yard butterfly. Angela Vinton, second in 100-yard freestyle. Jessica Lalli, first in 50-yard backstroke.

The team of Jennifer Clark, Jillian Kos, Katie Gorman, and Jessica Lalli placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Boys 11-12:

The team of Erik Deliefde, Matthew Gendron, Connor Dooley, and Jeffrey Lagasse placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Erik Deliefde, first, and Jeffrey Lagasse, third in 200-yard individual medley.

Connor Dooley, first, and Kyle Henry, third in 50-yard freestyle. Jeffrey Lagasse, first in 50-yard butterfly. Matthew Gendron, first in 100-yard freestyle, first in 50-yard backstroke. Erik Deliefde, second, and Kyle Henry, third in 50-yard breaststroke.

Girls 13-14:

Daveen Macsata, first in 200-yard freestyle; Daveen Macasat, first, and Brittany Theriaque, second in 50-yard freestyle. Allison Morris, first in 100-yard butterfly. Brittany Theriaque, first in 100-yard freestyle. Allison Morris, first in 100-yard backstroke.

Boys 13-14:

The team of Daniel Adamski, David Torrey, Kyle Sullivan, and Paul Lagasse placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Kyle Sullivan, first in 200-yard individual medley. Michael Lalli, first, and David Torrey, second in 200-yard freestyle. Steven Iacolo, second in 50-yard freestyle. Paul Lagasse, first, and Thomas Gorman, second in 100-yard butterfly. Steven Iacolo, third in 100-yard freestyle. David Adamski, second in 100-yard backstroke. Thomas Gorman, second, and Michael Lalli, third in 100-yard breaststroke.

The team of Daniel Adamski, Paul Lagasse, Thomas Gorman, and Kyle Sullivan placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Girls 15-18:

Kaitlin Morris, first in 50-yard freestyle, first in 100-yard freestyle.

Boys 15-18:

Nathan Adamski, first in 50-yard freestyle, first in 100-yard freestyle.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon ... AAN!!!

* * *



BALLHOGS 1: Coach Tony DePalma, Steve Carmody, Ryan Wytrych, Anthony DePalma, Steve Donah, Anthony Costa, Chris Alvanos, and Alfredo Settembre. (Missing: Thomas Albano.)



BALLHOGS 2: Coach Tony DePalma, Nick Allen, Chris Wyman, Victor Ferrentino, Jason Polek, Coach Jerry Allen, Carmino Bonavita, and Randy Holmes. (Missing: Nick Dassatti and Dan Geiger.)

“Ballhogs” Take First And Second In Division I Of U-10 Indoor Soccer

Coach Tony DePalma divided his Pioneer Valley “Ballhogs” soccer team into two units, Ballhogs 1 and Ballhogs 2, to allow more playing time for each team member.

With the help of Coach Jerry Allen, Ballhogs 1 and 2 took first and second place in the U-10 division of the Games and Lanes Indoor Soccer

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Ballhogs 1 went undefeated, and Ballhogs 2 overcame a tough Holyoke team to take second place and face their teammates in the championship game.

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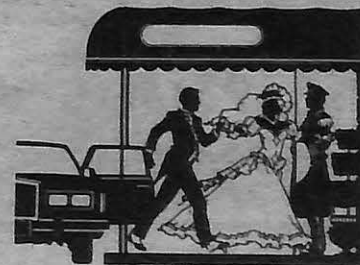
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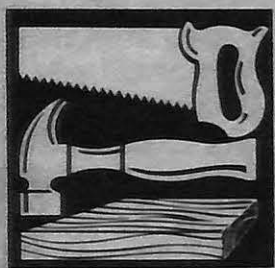


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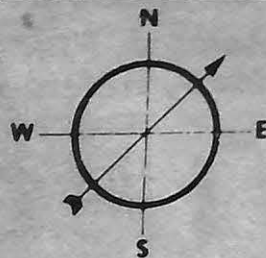
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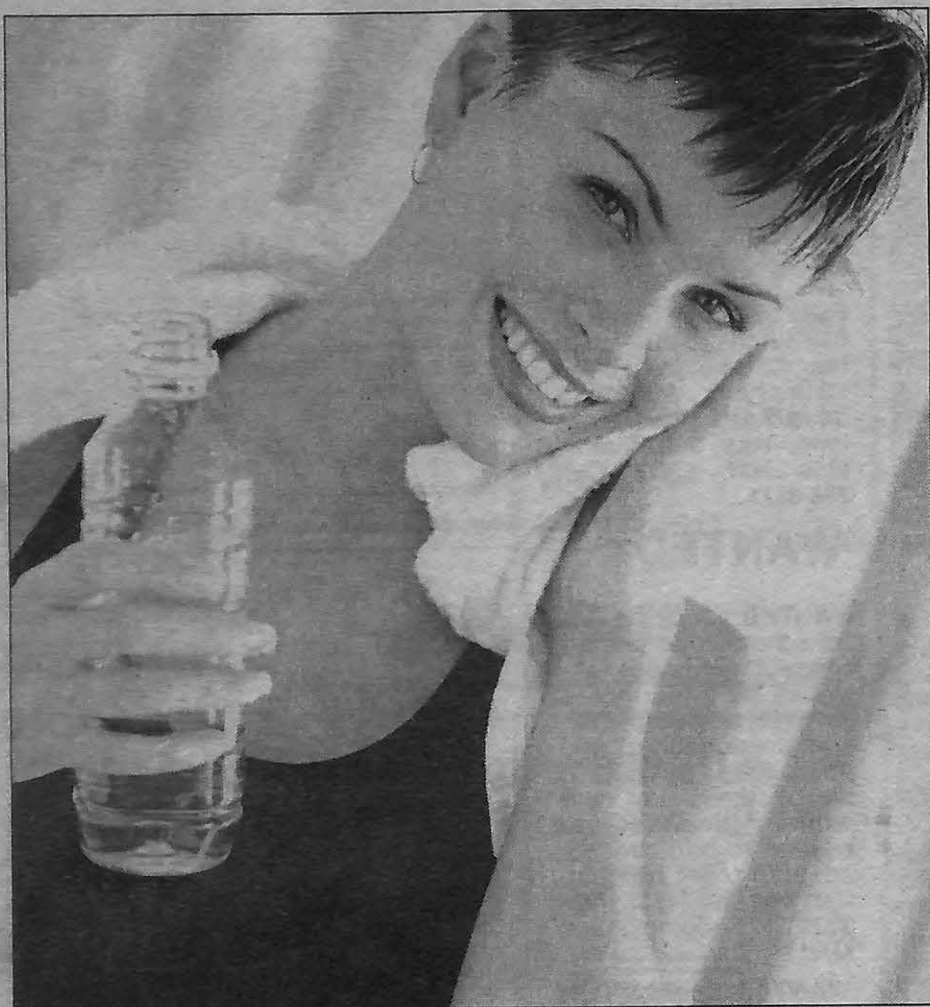
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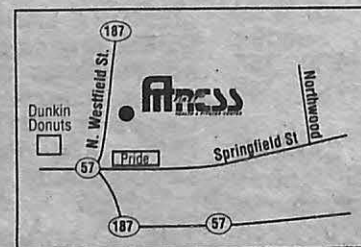
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